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Dr. Torres Bodet confers with President Truman at the White House during a visit of the Unesco Director-General to Washington on April 5. Standing: Asst. Secretary of State George V. Allen.

Thousands Join in Unesco Rally At Cleveland

WHAT Unesco has done and what it must do was dramatically presented to over 3,000 delegates at a three-day conference of the U.S. National Commission for Unesco which began on March 31 at Cleveland, Ohio.

The conference, one of the most comprehensive ever held by a Unesco National Commission, drew representatives from hundreds of national organizations, and leaders from all parts of the United States, as well as officials and observers from many others countries.

On April 1, in the great main auditorium of the Cleveland City Hall, which had been decked with 8-foot high sparkling silver letters spelling out UNESCO Dr. Jaime Torres Bodet spoke on "Unesco —A Personal Faith", and Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

On the stage, backed by the 46 flags of Unesco's Member States, sat Dr. Milton S. Eisenhower, president of the U.S. Commission; Mr. George V. Allen, Assistant Secretary of State; Dr. George D. Stoddard, president of the University of Illinois; M. Henri Laugier, Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations; and Sir John Maud, Permanent Under-Secretary to the British Ministry of Education.

Calling for a "great crusade" for the maintenance of peace through education, Dr. Torres Bodet said: "Peace has to be built in the slums and in the villages. That is where most people live—and live under conditions which constitute a permanent threat to peace. About two-thirds of the human race are forgotten, and the most forgotten thing about them is their minds."

And the Director-General added: "So long as there are two groups of peoples—the one privileged, supplied with first-class universities, laboratories and libraries, the other backward, for whom even primary school is luxury, there can be no true international peace of a just and lasting character." *(For the full text of Dr. Torres Bodet's address, see Page 3.)*

Speaking on the subject "Making Human Rights Come Alive", Mrs. Roosevelt described the U.N. Declaration as "an educational document" and called on peoples and nations to make it a "living document".

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Unesco Can Aid U.N. Plan For Under-Developed Areas,

Torres Bodet Says

UNESCO can make an important contribution to the United Nations plan to give technical assistance to the under-developed areas of the world, Dr. Jaime Torres Bodet declared in Washington early this month.

After calling on President Truman at the White House on April 5 to express appreciation fo the "outstanding work" the United States has done for Unesco, Torres Bodet told newsmen in Washington that he "warmly welcomed" the resolution which the Economic and Social Council of the U.N. had adopted on March 4.

This resolution requests Trygve Lie, in consultation with the Specialized Agencies, to submit a plan to ECOSOC before its meeting in July, for the technical and economic development of less advanced countries.

"This generous and at the same time realistic initiative is in full harmony with the mission of the United Nations and especially of Unesco, since education is a necessary corollary to economic development," Torres Bodet declared.

RECALLING that "the impetus for developing this programme came originally from President Truman", the Unesco chief added: "By focusing world attention on the problem of under-developed areas, Mr. Truman, in my opinion, has made a very great contribution to the cause of peace. Giving assistance to the under-privileged masses who have been by-passed by progress in many parts of the world is a constructive goal for international co-operation."

"The educational and scientific aspects of the programme", he continued, "are just as important as technical assistance. The latter will be largely wasted if the inhabitants of the regions which are being assisted are not educated to make the best possible use of the economic assistance. Furthermore, any large-scale programme of the kind which is contemplated has important cultural implications. As their technological level rises, backward peoples must be helped to adapt their cultural independence... If you are going to train their hands, you must also teach their minds."

Recalling that "a strict system of priorities for all Unesco activities this year" had been set up, Torres Bodet said: "We are giving top priority to projects which directly support the United Nations plans for under-developed areas."

HE called attention to Unesco's educational missions in such countries as Siam, the Philippines and Afghanistan, to the educational seminars for setting up campaigns to combat illiteracy in India and Brazil, and to the clearing-house and experimental work in fundamental education which includes the teaching of elementary hygiene and scientific agriculture.

The Director-General also stressed the value of Unesco's achievements in establishing field science co-operation offices in Cairo, Delhi, Shanghai and Montevideo, in stimulating scientific research in the various problems peculiar to under-developed areas, in obtaining fellowships in the more advanced countries for scholars from under-developed areas, and in surveying the press, film and radio needs in these areas.

He pointed out, however, that "the scope of all this work cannot but be restricted because of our lack of adequate resources," since Unesco's total budget is fixed at $7,780.000. "What is now required," he added, "is an effort on an altogether different scale."

Referring to a recent meeting with Mr. Trygve Lie, Torres Bodet reported that he had assured the U.N. chief that "Unesco will co-operate in this enterprise to the fullest extent." He announced that four Unesco officials were participating in the preliminary drafting of the Joint Plan for under-developed areas, which will ultimately be submitted to ECOSOC.

"We think that from this preparatory stage onwards," Dr. Torres Bodet said, "Unesco is in a position to make a valuable contribution. The human element remains the decisive factor in all technical and economic progress. If technical assistance is to produce economic effects that are deep and lasting... it must be based on an effort in the sphere of education—not merely technical education, but also fundamental and even scientific education."

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Read

ALDOUS HUXLEY

SIR JOHN RUSSELL

SRIPATI CHANDRASEKHAR

ON

"FOOD AND PEOPLE"

IN THIS ISSUE

Milton S. Eisenhower, Chairman of U.S. National Commission for Unesco.

Thousands Join In Unesco National Rally At Cleveland

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"The beginning can only be made", she said, "if we make the Declaration a living document, something that is not just words on paper but... which we really strive to bring into the lives of all peoples."

On the opening day of the conference. Dr. Eisenhower emphasized the importance that the people of the United States are giving to the work and aims of Unesco. "Each of the organizations on the National Commission—and they have a combined total of some 40 million members—has made Unesco one of its major projects", he explained.

The U.S. Assistant Secretary of State also stressed the importance of Unesco's direct contact with individuals of all countries. "Unesco", Mr. Allen said, "comes nearer to being an international organization made up of millions of human beings than any other intergovernmental body yet created...

"The job of Unesco is to create a world community, in which private individuals everywhere feel that they belong not only to a nation but are also citizens of what Wendell Wilkie called 'One World'..."

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, who spoke on Human Rights at the Cleveland National conference on Unesco, has just received the first U.S. award in Human Relations for her "outstanding contribution to the cause of harmony among men."

The fundamental purpose of the Cleveland conference was to illustrate how organizations, institutions and communities are reaching the "grass-roots" of America by utilizing all available resources to further Unesco's objectives.

Making use of various devices, such as exhibits, demonstrations, films, round-table and panel discussions, and radio, nationally known figures took leading roles in dramatizing six major topics: edu-nationally known figures took leading persons, the United Nations, Human Rights, education, and the advancement of world civilization through the arts and sciences.

With these discussions as a basis, delegates examined specific methods of individual participation in Unesco's work through the mass media, schools and colleges, adult education, libraries, business, farm and civic organizations.

For example, farm leaders, representing farm organizations from 16 states, demonstrated "down to earth" rural participation in Unesco's work. They described their "Get to know the United Nations" programmes which include carefully planned discussion groups, county "missionary" work by trained farm leaders and the screening of films on international matters of concern to farmers.

One of the highlights of the conference was the premiere performance of the "Freedom Symphony", played by the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra and conducted by Mr. Howard Hanson, president of the U.S. National Music Council. The music for the Symphony was based on extracts from compositions by leading American composers. It accompanied the reading of statements found in history's greatest freedom documents—from the Magna Carta to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Under-Developed Areas

(Continued from Page 1)

He quoted the ECOSOC resolution which recognizes this need: "paying due attention to questions of a social nature which directly condition economic development."

HE pointed out to correspondents that Unesco's Executive Board, at a special session convened in Paris on March 24, had approved several concrete proposals on the Organization's possible contributions to the programme for technical assistance.

These proposals, he said, bear on the scientific study of regional problems affecting the development of backward areas, the technical training of personnel, education of entire populations and campaigns against illiteracy, as well as adult education in hygiene, agriculture, handicrafts and industry.

SPEAKING in detail on the plan for the education of whole populations, the Unesco chief had said: "Men are not robots. All human activity is the necessary outcome of a state of mind. It is quite impossible to imagine technical training worthy of the name, that is, training which is not mere mechanical drilling, without it being based on fundamental education and accompanied by general education. Backward peoples cannot be taught working methods and the rules of hygiene, of private and communjty life which the modern technical age has developed, unless they have sufficient mental training to understand the explanations and reasons of those practices. Otherwise man is either unable to use the instruments of his emancipation or else he becomes an instrument himself. The first essential for any technological and economic progress is therefore to raise the standard of education of the general population."

Other projects outlined by the Director-General in Washington included the use of media of mass communication, promotion of primary education, and the promotion of scientific information and research.

THE Unesco Director-General stressed the fact that the plan to aid backward areas must not be impaired by "mediocre results".

"If a lack of sufficient resources were to confine us to superficial efforts or token activity" he told correspondents, "this would mean an intense disappointment for the peoples of the underdeveloped regions."

In discussing his meeting with President Truman, Torres Bodet expressed pleasure at discovering that the President was thoroughly acquainted with the details of Unesco's programme. It was an "inspiration", he said, o learn that despite neavy responsabilities as Chief Executive of the United States, President Truman could find time to keep such close track of Unesco's activities.

'Care' To Ship Books To Schools, Librairies

GIFTS of U.S. technical and scientific books will be sent to foreign schools and libraries in Europe and Asia under a new programme sponsored by CARE, the Co-operative for American Remittances to Europe.

The programme was announced at the second U.S. National Conference for Unesco by Mr. Murray B. Lincoln, President of CARE.

Mr. Lincoln declared that the book programme is a practical way in which the people of the United States can aid Unesco's efforts towards educational reconstruction. He said that the latest and best U.S. books will be selected to meet needs in countries which suffered from the war. These needs have been determined by CARE missions in co-operation with Unesco, foreign ministries, education, and other authoritative sources. CARE will be guided in its selections by a committee headed by Luther Evans, head of the U.S. Library of Congress.

Included on the committee will be members of the American Library Association and the U.S. Book Exchange.

"I feel there will be popular support for this programme, for the people of the United States have given CARE 75 million dollars in the past for food and clothing packages," Lincoln said. "For the new book programme, the publishers have assured CARE of their support and co-operation by giving a discount on the books purchased."

Mr. Lincoln pointed out that during the past two years his organization has distributed more than seven and a half million food and clothing packages overseas.

Milton S. Eisenhower, Chairman of the U.S. National Commission for Unesco, heartily endorsed the new book programme, which is scheduled to start on May 15. Present plans are to send the books in block shipments to institutions designated by Unesco and other agencies.

The general categories of books to be sent overseas include health and welfare, nursing, medicine, dentistry, agricultural science, veterinary science, and English language instruction. In the field of applied science there will be books on biology, chemistry, engineering, geology, mathematics, physics, physiology, psychology, and sociology.

Countries to which CARE will offer the book programme include Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Italy, France, Greece, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Great Britain, the American, British and French zones of Germany, Berlin, Korea and Japan. Only unused books will be shipped.

The American relief agency "CARE" which has distributed over 7,500,000 food and clothing packages to needy countries, will now also ship technical books abroad.

A NEW WORD IS COINED— 'UNESCAN'

A NEW word — UNESCAN — was coined on March 31, on the opening day of the Second U.S. National Conference on Unesco, in Cleveland, Ohio.

Sir John MAUD

Speaking on "The Achievements and Promise of Unesco" Sir John Maud, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education of the United Kingdom and a member of Unesco's Executive Board, used the word Unescan for the first time to describe a person who takes part in Unesco activity.

Two days later, the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Public Affairs, George V. Allen, who spoke on "Unesco and the United Nations", laid special emphasis on Sir John Maud's use of the new word.

"Perhaps the term may eventually come into general use," Mr. Allen said, "to describe any citizen of the world who is willing to acknowledge his responsibility to humanity as a whole. To become a Unescan we need to broaden our concepts and to realize that while we are Americans, Englishmen, or Mexicans, we are at the same time citizens of a world community to which we have responsibilities, and to which we recognize some common fealty as members of one human race. A North Carolinian or a Kansan can be a good American, and an American can be a good Unescan.

"Dr. Torres Bodet refers often to Unesco as an organization through which human beings everywhere speak directly with each other. His hope, I am confident, is that the Unesco Secretariat itself can eventually deal with individuals not merely as Americans, Frenchmen, or Brazilians, but also as Unescans."

UNESCO A Personal Faith

On April 1, on the occasion of the Second National Conference of the United States National Commission for Unesco, Dr. Jaime Torres Bodet addressed a public audience of almost 10,000 persons on "Unesco—A Personal Faith". This address, which was widely applauded by delegates and visitors attending the conference, is reproduced in full below.

By J. TORRES BODET

Director-General

I am deeply grateful to the United States National Commission and to the citizens of Cleveland for this opportunity to speak to you. This is not my first visit to your country. It has, however, a special significance for me, because it is my first visit as Director-General of Unesco.

I am happy to be with you and happy to greet on this platform tonight one of your most distinguished citizens—Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. Her work in furthering the international understanding to which you are all committed has long been remarkable.

Most recently, her signal efforts in helping the completion of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the Assembly of the United Nations have renewed the world's hope that mankind will use the victory of the last war to build a better world for all men to live in. This indeed has been an objective long associated with the illustrious name she bears. It is also the objective of Unesco.

Unesco is an organization, maintained by forty-six governments, including your own, to administer certain human interests which they all have in common. By your Government's participation in it, you, as American citizens, have both rights and obligations with regard to this Organization.

Through your participation in the work of Unesco, and in many other ways, you are making a major contribution to the cause of human progress. In you I salute greatness achieved and greatness yet to come: the strength of a young nation. But what strikes me most is not the immense material force of your country. It is the fact that in your universities and colleges, libraries and many other national and community voluntary organizations, men and women like you are struggling to uphold those spiritual values that preserve a nation's virtue from corruption—the fellowship of men, respect for man as an individual, and respect for civilization as an assertion of freedom.

A man possesses nothing, if he does not use what he has for the well-being of humanity. In a country like yours, with its huge resources, there may indeed be groups of people who are concerned to use the fruit of their labour in order to increase their own power and influence. But you, educators, scientists, artists and civic leaders, know as well as I do that the lust for power often deflects nations from their natural destiny.

Power is built up only to fall, unless it rests on the one solid basis—the basis of the spirit. The continual struggle to preserve the moral basis of a nation's strength—through the arts, education and thought—is the strongest bulwark of national security.

That is why, in the recent war, before your soldiers had come home, you declared yourselves in favour of a just and worthy peace. In the Fall of 1945, your delegates came to London to plead the cause of international co-operation through education, science and culture.

As the delegate of my country, I was able, in the capital of Great Britain, to see the efforts which your representatives were making. And may I tell you frankly that of all your victories the one that impressed me most was that supreme victory over yourselves, when you decided, in the hour of triumph, to erect no walls of hatred between victors and vanquished, but to clear the path to understanding.

'IS THE UNESCO APPROACH WRONG?'

It was thus that Unesco was brought to birth. What were the arguments in favour of its creation? They are summed up in the preamble to our Constitution. Let me recall to your minds one of this document's most striking clauses:

> *"That a peace based exclusively upon the political and economic arrangements of governments would not be a peace which could secure the unanimous, lasting and sincere support of the peoples of the world and that the peace must therefore be founded, if it is not to fail, upon the intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind".*

The words I have just read to you still throb with the spirit that gave Unesco life. Maybe, our post-war difficulties have modified a little of that "first fine careless rapture." We are daily faced, and faced more clearly, with the fact that while everyone, as an individual, yearns for peace, the horizon is clouded with the tragic menace of fresh wars.

Does that mean that the Unesco approach was wrong? I say emphatically—no. In my opinion what is wrong is that the Unesco approach has not yet been seriously tried. Concerned with organizing their political and economic life, governments do not always attach the same importance to the moral conditions which furnish that political and economic life with its strongest support in the hearts and minds of men. Thus the concept of interdependence often takes precedence over the concept of solidarity. Unhappily the interdependence of governments, without the solidarity of nations, is not enough to avert the dangers of war.

Stunted Minds Breed War

War can always be made between the great capitals. Peace has to be built in the slums and in the villages. That is where most people live—and live under conditions which constitute a permanent threat to peace. About two-thirds of the human race are forgotten men—and the most forgotten thing about them is their minds.

About half of the human race is totally illiterate.

A very small percentage of all the adults in the world have had the equivalent of a full high-school education. A much smaller fraction can be considered really educated men and women. The fact that this handful of intellectuals has attained a level of education unprecedented in history does not lessen the gravity of the situation. On the contrary, it increases it.

I know that you do not need to be convinced that the unequal distribution of food and material wealth in the world is a menace to peace. But, inequalities in the access to knowledge and to technical skills may be as great a menace to peace as those inequalities in the access to raw materials about which we used to hear so much. Stunted minds breed war.

It is for this reason that no programme for raising standards of living, for insuring the world with greater prosperity is possible, or indeed has any prospect of success unless it is accompanied by programmes of education for the development of men's minds, their spirit, and their moral strength.

In this connexion I have read with great interest the resolution of the ECOSOC, calling upon the United Nations and Specialized Agencies to submit proposals for the economic development of under-developed territories. Unesco is giving careful study to this question to determine what its best contribution may be.

History shows that, wherever the few are too highly educated, and the many too ignorant, there tend to arise energetic individuals or groups whose minds are a terrifying mixture of ignorance and education, of intelligence and brutality, of savagery and progress.

This mixture is the most deadly social explosive that we know. Therefore I maintain that the most dangerous division in the world is the one between education and ignorance, between the culturally-privileged and the culturally-underprivileged, between the intellectual "haves" and the intellectual "have-nots".

'A GRIM REALITY'

In any country, so long as there are, on the one hand, people who can command all the benefits of technical progress in education and science and, on the other hand, vast numbers who are illiterate, there can be no real social peace. And, in the world, so long as there are two groups of peoples—the one privileged, supplied with first-class universities, laboratories and libraries, the other backward, for whom even a primary school is a luxury, there can be no true international peace of a just and lasting character.

Too few people admit or understand this grim reality. Perhaps that is why we sometimes hear Unesco ridiculed as an organization of dreamers and idealists.

For we are aware of the problem and we are trying to do something about it. Our means are feeble. You cannot bring education, science and culture to all the forgotten men and forgotten minds of the world with a budget which is less than eight million dollars a year. But let me ask you: Which is more unrealistic—to work at the foundations of peace with inadequate tools, or to start putting up the house before the foundation has been laid?

The problem of co-ordination of efforts is more difficult in our case, perhaps, than in the case of the other Specialized Agencies of the United Nations. Unesco's work takes place, so to speak, at the third remove; questions submitted to us must previously have been considered by the National Commissions and by the Governments. If the National Commissions do not work diligently enough, or if the governments place obstacles in the way of the Commission's activities, Unesco cannot do its job. Fortunately, this does not happen in your country. I would like to take this occasion to voice my admiration for the work which your National Commisison is doing for the execution of the Unesco programme. Since I cannot, today, express my thanks to each one of you individually, let me thank you through the person of your Chairman.

Dr. Eisenhower, your own tireless labours in the cause of Unesco are an inspiration to all of us. Under your brilliant leadership, the U.S. National Commission is an example of free and well-organized ability. As Director-General of Unesco, I rejoice at that and am happy to congratulate you most warmly upon it.

As you know, Unesco was directed by the General Conference at Beirut to give wide publicity to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and we have accordingly made Human Rights the subject of one of our main programme activities for the year. As part of this campaign I wrote to all the National Commissions in the Member States recommending that they take active steps to publicize the Declaration.

In his reply on behalf of your National Commission Dr. Eisenhower assured me that, apart from other action the Commission is taking, this meeting in Cleveland would emphasize Human Rights as one of its major themes. I am happy to see how effectively this promise has been realized and again I would like to thank Mrs. Roosevelt for the support she is giving our work by her presence here. Surely no one is better fitted in bringing home to the masses the importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

'Unesco Cannot Go Ahead Without the Support of the Great Masses'

Unesco cannot go ahead without the support of the great masses which make up public opinion. Unesco was set up to promote international understanding throughout the world; it must begin by making itself understood by all men throughout the world. Hitherto, despite the efforts of the Secretariat and of my distinguished predecessor, we have not made much progress along that road.

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UNESCO A Personal Faith

(Continued from Page 3)

The National Commissions of Unesco's Member States must clearly understand that one of their main functions is to bring Unesco into direct contact with the people. We, in our work, often need specialists, technicians and experts; but the greatest fruits of our efforts must be enjoyed by the greatest number. The man in the street must not remain unaware that Unesco exists and is thinking of him. His distress, his anxieties, and his desires are the best reasons for our existence.

WE NEED NATIONAL COMMISSIONS SUCH AS YOURS. THESE COMMISSIONS MUST MULTIPLY THEIR RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE PEOPLES THEY REPRESENT. THERE SHOULD NOT BE A NEWSPAPER, A UNIVERSITY, A COLLEGE, A PRIMARY SCHOOL OR AN ADULT ORGANIZATION THAT DOES NOT KNOW WHAT UNESCO IS. THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF TEACHERS AND WRITERS AND MILLIONS OF MEN AND WOMEN WHO THINK AS YOU AND I DO. WHY NOT GO OUT TO THEM THROUGH THE BOOK OR THE SPOKEN WORD, THE RADIO, OR THE FILM, THE PRESS OR TELEVISION?

A Challenge to Film Producers

YOU have at your hand the greatest instrument for swaying minds that man has ever created—your motion pictures. Why not try to persuade your studios to turn out a series of films, explaining how ignorance imprisons man; how ignorance of other countries' ways of life creates political tensions which might be avoided if all men made an honest attempt to understand each other? Films finally, to show that many peoples, poor and undernourished though they are, furnish humanity with treasures of art and with some of the greatest leaders of our time?

During the war, the motion picture did a wonderful job in showing the moral reasons which had impelled the democracies to take up the challenge of the totalitarian governments. Why should not film producers throw themselves today with equal fervour into the task of showing the moral reasons why we must not accept blindly, as an inevitable calamity, the threat of new wars?

Could they not, by moving and dramatic stories—as dramatic and as moving as the facts themselves—bring home to the world the need for educational reconstruction in war-devastated countries and the need to help education in economically backward countries?

Comic-Strips As a Constructive Force

THERE is another great force in your country which could be harnessed to constructive ends. I refer to your comic-strips, which are gaining such popularity throughout the world—so much, indeed, that, in certain countries, alarm has been expressed at the influence which they have upon young minds. I think myself that this influence is often harmful. But it need not be. It could be a wholesome influence.

For example, your most talented comic-strip artists might more frequently weave into their stories characters portraying foreigners and members of under-privileged minority groups within your own country in a sympathetic light. That would be a good contribution to the work of Unesco —and to the social health of your country.

Comics should be used also to tell the story of what each nation has contributed to our civilization—especially what they have contributed to the development of human rights. This would be aiding one of Unesco's main campaigns.

Such things could not be done to order or by decree in a country like yours, which owes its astounding progress to initiative, free enterprise and free association. But much could be done by a campaign of patient and sustained persuasion.

It is a natural pursuit of children to form "excursion clubs" and, from their schools, to exchange letters, messages, stamps and so forth. Why not take the opportunity of founding clubs of young "Friends of Unesco"? Their members would practise in their communities and homes the principles of social life advocated by Unesco and so, to the experience they have gained of their own country, they would add a knowledge of the world, a united world. Like charity, Unesco begins at home.

One of Humanity's Gravest Problems

THERE are two Unesco campaigns which I hope you will push forward even more vigorously than you have in the past. One is the "Food and People" drive—the programme of mass education in which we are co-operating with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization to make people throughout the world aware of one of humanity's gravest problems.

Surely there are few better ways of promoting the moral and intellectual solidarity of mankind than to make the world understand that our grandchildren are going to starve and wars will be encouraged unless we co-operate in utilizing all the possibilities of science to preserve and develop our food resources.

"It is a natural pursuit of children to form 'excursion clubs' and, from their schools, to exchange letters, messages, stamps and so forth. Why not take the opportunity of founding clubs of young 'Friends of Unesco'? Their members would practise in their communities and homes the principles of social life advocated by Unesco and so, to the experience they have gained of their own country, they would add a knowledge of the world."

'IT IS THE FOUNDATIONS OF CIVILIZATION WE HAVE TO RECONSTRUCT'

THE other campaign which I hope you will intensify is the one on behalf of educational reconstruction in war-devastated countries. Through the voluntary organizations and the United States National Commission with which Unesco is co-operating, the American people have already contributed generously to this cause. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you. But let me plead with you not to relax your efforts, or curb your generosity. The need is as great as ever, and it is more than a humanitarian need.

It is the foundations of civilization which we have to reconstruct—foundations that were already too narrow and too precarious before war blasted them away in many lands. Remember that it was not merely the fruits of yesterday's civilization which war destroyed, but the tools of tomorrow's civilization. And it is now—today—that the worst cultural losses of war are occuring—in the minds of millions of children who are being deprived of education because the means for educating them have been destroyed. These are really the irreparable losses. I know you will not let them go on.

"For me, Unesco is not merely an institution. It is a personal faith. If I believe in Unesco, it is because I know that peace is worth more than war, and education more than propaganda, just as truth is better than a lie, and light is better than darkness. Men cannot live without struggling, but if men are to struggle, it should be against poverty, ignorance, hatred, fear and disease; they should struggle to build up, and never to destroy."

Education for Backward Areas

I suggested earlier to you that there is urgent need for the governments of advanced countries to give educational, as well as economic assistance to the backward or undeveloped areas of the world.

There are, however, certain limitations to the action of individual governments in this field. There are certain necessary tasks which can best performed by an impartial and non-political international agency.

This was recognized in your country as early as 1914, when a bill was introduced into your House of Representatives calling for an international educational fund—to be administered by an international committee of educators—for the very purpose we have in mind. In one way we have made progress since then, for Unesco now exists to do this work.

On the other hand, the bill to which I refer proposed that all governments participating in the international educational fund should contribute to it one per cent of their annual military budgets.

If this principle were applied to Unesco our budget would not, at it is, be less than eight million dollars—it would be many times that amount. At present, when Member States apply to us for advice in developing their educational programmes, we feel like a doctor prescribing costly remedies to a patient who has not the money to buy them.

Cultural Uniformity: A Spiritual Disaster

WHEN I speak of educational and economic assistance in raising the cultural level of under-privileged countries, I am not thinking of a specific form of culture, however fine it might be. In my opinion, uniformity would be a spiritual disaster, amounting to the loss of all that is most original and typical in any nation: its language, its art, its thought, its view of life and of beauty—its soul, in fact.

Funds collected for assistance of this sort could, of course, be administered by an international body; but they would have to be used in accordance with the laws, and on behalf of the educational systems, of the countries which accept the assistance.

'WHY NOT UNDERTAKE A GREAT CRUSADE IN PEACE AS IN WAR?'

YOU will ask whether what I am proposing to you is a crusade. Well, yes, it is just that—a great crusade. And why should the nations and individuals not undertake this crusade in peace, as they did, at the risk of their lives, in war?

For me, Unesco is not merely an institution. It is a personal faith. If I had not this deep faith in it, I should not have left my country, that reality which is my country, to devote myself to an international fiction. No, if I had not that faith, I should not be here. I should be somewhere in my country, either a Minister, as I was when I accepted to assume the direction of Unesco, or else a simple citizen, living, hoping and suffering with my co-equals; but I believe in Unesco, and that is why I am at Unesco.

And if I believe in Unesco, it is because I know that peace is worth more than war, and education more than propaganda, just as truth is better than a lie, and light is better than darkness. Men cannot live without struggling; but if men are to struggle, it should be against poverty, ignorance, hatred, fear and disease; they should struggle to build up, and never to destroy.

FOR centuries, the peoples have lived in a world of isolated cultures which they regarded as mutually incompatible. But we now know that all cultures can and must harmonize, without excluding or distorting each other, in order to contribute to the emergence of a world civilization.

Harmony does not imply uniformity. Far be it from me to advocate a uniform world, in which individuals and peoples would be as interchangeable as the mass-produced parts of a machine. Life means diversity, but diversity is not necessarily a source of conflict.

In laying the foundation for a world civilization based upon cultural diversity without conflict, a special responsibility rests on your shoulders. Your country is strong and rich. The world is entited to expect from you not mere self-restraint and co-operation, but continuing inspiration and initiative.

Ladies and gentlemen, I thank you for your patience. Before I end, may I express my earnest conviction that you will not disappoint the hopes which are placed in you. I know that you are unshakably committed to the mission which one of your greatest Presidents proclaimed in words that have an immortal echo:

"With malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right... let us strive on to all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace".

Lincoln's words still apply today; their grandeur is undiminished by the passage of time. They define, as well as anything which has ever been said since, the task that lies before you, and the goal which Unesco seeks for all mankind.

Then, again, when I speak of the need to combat ignorance in order to promote peace, I place no exaggerated belief in what the schools alone can do for social reconstruction.

UNESCO has been given the task of working through the scools to promote the ideals of justice toward all countries and respect for the dignity of every man. But if, as Director-General of Unesco, I said to you: "In a world whose thoughts are fixed on war, the schools alone will be enough to educate mankind for peace", then I should be wrong. The schools are not enough; the writers, artists and poets are not enough. Schools worthy of the life which we desire demand a life worthy of the schools we seek. The ruler in his decisions, the statesman in his speeches; the scientist in the application of his discoveries; the journalist in the drafting of his articles; the woman in her daily household tasks, every one —I say every single one—is a potential educator for peace.

Teacher and the Bull-Fight

ALL of you have heard of bull-fights. I used to go to them occasionally when I was young. I thought I liked them until, one day, I found I did not. And when I realized why, I made a firm resolve to go no more to entertainments of that kind. What I realized then was that, at bull-fights, the public feels brave because it is applauding the professional who risks his life against the bull. It feels brave—but what the spectators are doing is enjoying the rewards of courage by proxy. They pay for a professional to be brave on their behalf for two or three hours, and that gives them pleasure and makes them feel tough

In quite a number of cases, something very similar takes place in education. People cheer on the teacher and delegate to him the task of being friendly, understanding, fair, frank and peaceful. But nobody can be kindly or courageous through another; he can be so only through his own personal effort. No one can live our lives for us, save ourselves. In other words, we must not make of the educator what Nietzsche would probably have christened "Virtue's gladiator". Let us not lounge on the benches above the arena while, on the sand below, the teacher battles against the forces of rancour and ignorance. Let us accept the responsibilities which the need to save peace imposes on us. I give you my solemn assurance that Unesco will not cease to bear its part of the burden.

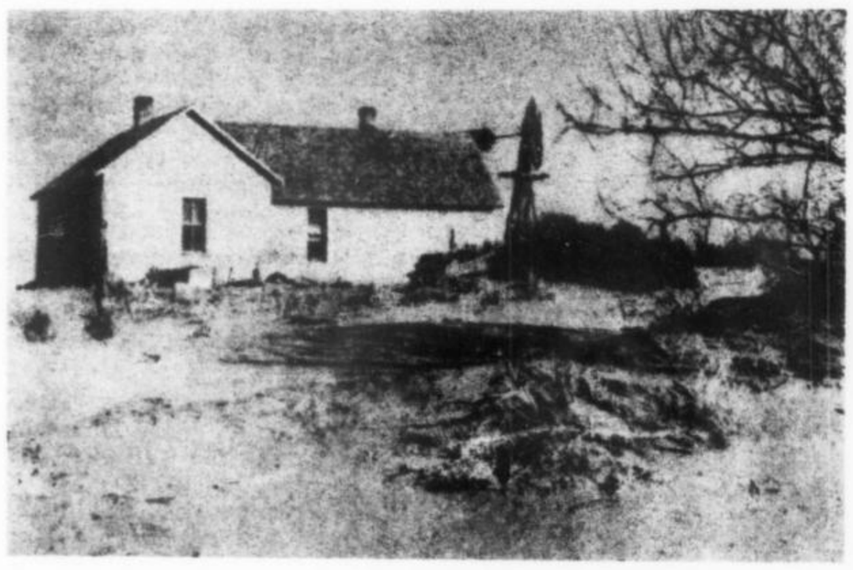
SUPPLEMENT

UNESCO

COURIER

PUBLICATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

Volume II.—No 3. APRIL 1949.



The inevitable result of reckless destruction of forests and uncontrolled abuse of the land's resources: good farmland is turned into barren and desolate dust-bowls (above, left). Scientific contour farming in dust-bowl areas, however, gradually brings the land back to fertility (above right).

But some experts have warned that there is not enough land on earth to raise the food humans need. "In the race between population and food, population is winning "the first president of F.A.O. has reported. Over half the people in the world don't get enough to eat. Over-population, insufficient farm production: these are the problems.

FOOD AND PEOPLE

CAN WE FEED THE MILLIONS OF EXTRA MOUTHS THAT ARE BEING ADDED TO THE WORLD EVERY YEAR? ARE WE MAKING FULL USE OF ALL THE NEW RESOURCES OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE? UNESCO PAMPHLETS KEYNOTE WORLD DISCUSSIONS.

IN the last one hundred and fifty years, there have been three major alarms in regard to the world's rising population and the inadequacies of food supplies: one by Thomas R. Malthus in 1798, a second by Sir William Crookes exactly one century later, and the third during the last few years. The first two alarms proved to be false. Will today's also prove to be a false alarm?

Some experts say yes—others are less optimistic. Both groups agree, however, that the world's food resources are being used very unevenly and very wastefully, and recognize that the world cannot afford this at a time when population is growing at a rate which now exceeds 20,000,000 persons a year. The growth threatens to outstrip our food resources unless something is done soon to re-establish the balance. This is one of the commanding problems of our times.

Unesco has selected "Food and People" as a major discussion topic for this year and has issued a call to discussion groups throughout the world to give attention to this challenge.

In order to focus public opinion and stimulate discussion in schools, colleges, local clubs, civic organizations and adult education groups, Unesco asked experts in the food and population field to write a series of papers on the problems involved.

THE first of this series—a "master pamphlet" forming an introduction to all the others to follow—has just been published in English, in British and American editions under Unesco sponsorship.

Aldous Huxley fires the opening shot of the campaign with what he terms "The Double Crisis" which the world is hopelessly facing today; he stresses the declining fertility of the soil as opposed to the increasing fertility of mankind. Sir John Russell fires back, almost in total disagreement, emphasizing particularly the incalculable possibilities of scientific advancement.

As in all the forthcoming pamphlets which Unesco will sponsor throughout the campaign, the views expressed are the authors' own, whether optimistic or pessimistic.

The British and American editions of the Huxley-Russell pamphlets have been published by the *Bureau of Current Affairs* in London (1) and by *"Science Service"* in Washington (2).

The *Current Affairs* booklet, which sells for 9d., contains valuable suggestions and questions to guide discussion groups for the entire series. "Why not turn your first session into a formal or informal debate?", the *Current Affairs* pamphlet writes. "Either get two members of the group to outline briefly the case, first as put by Huxley and then by Russell, then throw it open to the group. Or else, having chosen your opening speakers, let the rest of the group divide off into "optimists" and "pessimists"; and let fly in debate. A good idea would be to let each side study in advance *only* the article that supports their own view—then see how they stand up to attack."

Spanish and French editions of the entire "Food and People" pamphlet series, sponsored by Unesco, will be published in the forthcoming weeks and months by Editorial Sud-Americana of Buenos-Aires and by a French publisher in Paris.

ALTHOUGH the pamphlet series is admittedly one of the important means being used to stimulate discussion in all parts of the world, it is not the sole method. Working in collaboration with the United Nations, FAO and WHO, Unesco is organizing campaigns for radio discussions, film treatment, exhibitions and filmstrips for community and national groups in different countries.

The Unesco World Review weekly radio programme for example, is devoting one programme a month to an aspect of "Food and People".

In the Union of South Africa, Belgium and Iran, World Federation of the United Nations Associations have already launched detailed discussion on "Food and People" problems in their own countries. The WFUNA summer school, which is scheduled to open in Geneva in August, will devote one entire week to this question and will offer a training programme for discussion leaders from over 20 countries. Unesco will provide training for discussion teachers to map out plans of action and is offering 6 bursaries for representatives from needy countries.

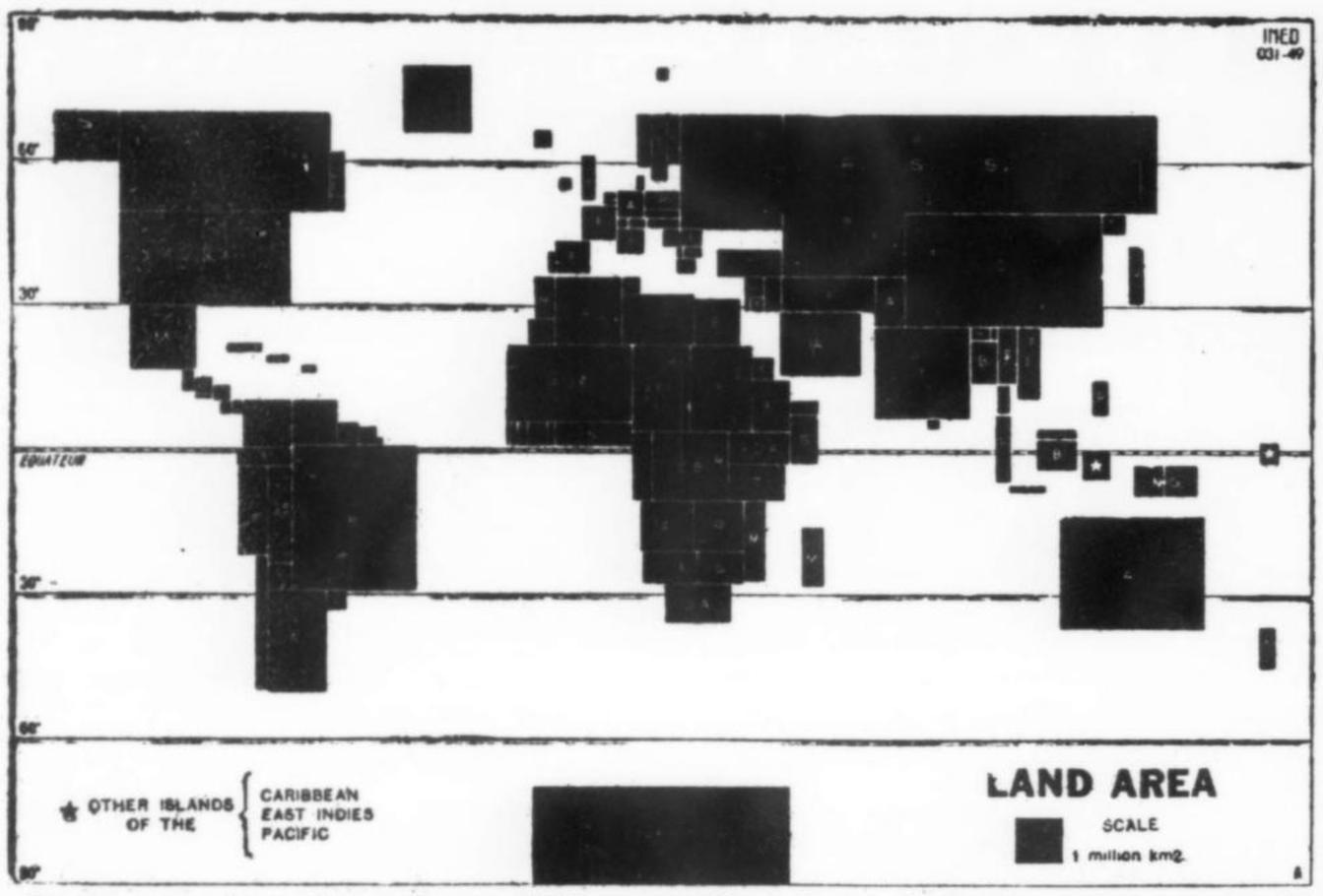
As the American edition of the "Food and People" pamphlet published by "Science Service" in co-operation with Unesco, urges readers, "make this the discussion topic for your fall programme."

On pages 6, 7 and 8, of this issue the *Unesco Courier* presents long extracts from the challenging articles by Aldous Huxley and Sir John Russell's reply. In addition, on page 9, Dr. S. Chandrasekhar presents some of the complicated population problems of India.

(1) *"Current Affairs", No 77 of 2nd April, 1949, published by The Bureau of Current Affairs, Carnegie House, 117, Piccadilly, London. Price 9 pence.*

(2) *"Science Service", an institution for the popularization of science, 1719, N. Street N.W., Washington 6, D.C. Price 10 cents.*

SEE PAGES 6 TO 9



The two maps shown above and upper right, are reproduced from a forthcoming "Food and People" pamphlet.—"Are there too many of us"—prepared by the French demographer, M. Paul Vincent.

The Double Crisis

By Aldous Huxley

Aldous Huxley

THE human race is passing through a time of crisis, and that crisis exists, so to speak, on two levels—an upper level of political and economic crisis and a lower level crisis in population and world resources. That which is discussed at international conferences and in the newspapers is the upper level crisis—the crisis whose immediate causes are the economic breakdown due to the War and the struggle for power between groups possessing, or about to possess, the means of mass extermination. Of the low-level crisis, the crisis in population and world resources, hardly anything is heard in the press, on the radio or at the more important international conferences.

Yet the low-level crisis is at least as serious as the crisis in the political and economic field. Moreover, the problems on the upper level cannot be solved without reference to the problems that are taking shape in the cosmic and biological basement. If it is ignored, the low-level crisis is bound to sharpen the crisis on the political and economic levels. At the same time, a concentration of attention and energy on power politics and power economics will make a solution of the low-level problems not merely difficult, but impossible.

In what follows I propose to discuss certain aspects of the low-level crisis and to point out how the obscure happenings in the basement have affected and are likely to go on affecting the lives of private individuals, the policies of statesmen and the conduct of nations.

"Poverty In the Midst of Poverty"

IT has been fashionable for some time past to talk about "poverty in the midst of plenty". The phrase implies that the planet possesses abundant resources to feed, clothe, house and provide amenities for its existing population and for any immediately foreseeable increase in that population, and that the present miseries of the human race are due entirely to faulty methods of production and, above all, of distribution. Given currency reform, socialism, communism, unrestricted capitalism, distribution, or whatever the favourite remedy may be, humanity, like the prince and princess in the stories, will be able to live happily ever after. Want and hunger will be transformed into abundance and the whole earth will become one vast Land of Cockayne.

Such are the miracles to be achieved by political and economic planning. But when we pass from these high-level considerations to a study of what is going on at the biological and ecological levels, our optimism is apt to seem a little premature, to say the least of it.

Instead of poverty in the midst of plenty, we then find that there is poverty in the midst of poverty. World-resources are inadequate to world-population. And meanwhile world population is rising. It is rising at the rate of about two hundred millions every ten years.

thirties. But within the next twenty-five years the population of the United States will rise (if nothing untoward happens in the interval) by about thirty millions.

What is happening in North America is happening also in other parts of the world. Erosion is rampant all over Africa, where a rapidly increasing native population clings tenaciously to its old habit of measuring social status in terms of cattle. There are more people, therefore more cows, therefore more over-grazing, therefore more erosion.

In Asia too, the same irreparable damage is being done to the very foundations of any possible civilization. Human poverty exists in the midst of a steadily increasing natural poverty.

More People—Less Food

SINCE 1800, Western Europe has trebled its population. This increase was made possible by the exploitation of the empty and agriculturally virgin territories of the New World.

Today the New World has a large and rapidly increasing population of its own and soil, after more than a century of abuse, is losing its fertility. There is still a very large exportable surplus of food; but as numbers go up, and fertility goes down, there will be less and less to spare for the hungry in other parts of the world. Moreover, the manufactured articles which Western Europe exchanged for food and raw materials have tended to become less acceptable in proportion as the nations of the New World have developed their own industries.

Food is a renewable commodity. If the soil is not abused, this year's harvest be succeeded by next year's. But the vein of tin or copper which produced this year's output of ore will not be renewed in years to come. When the lode has been worked out, the miner must move on to another deposit of the mineral. And if he can find no other deposits—well, that is just too bad.

Industrialism is the systematic exploitation of wasting assets. The thing we call progress is in many cases simply acceleration in the rate of that exploitation. And such prosperity as we have known up to the present is the consequence of rapidly spending the planet's irreplaceable capital.

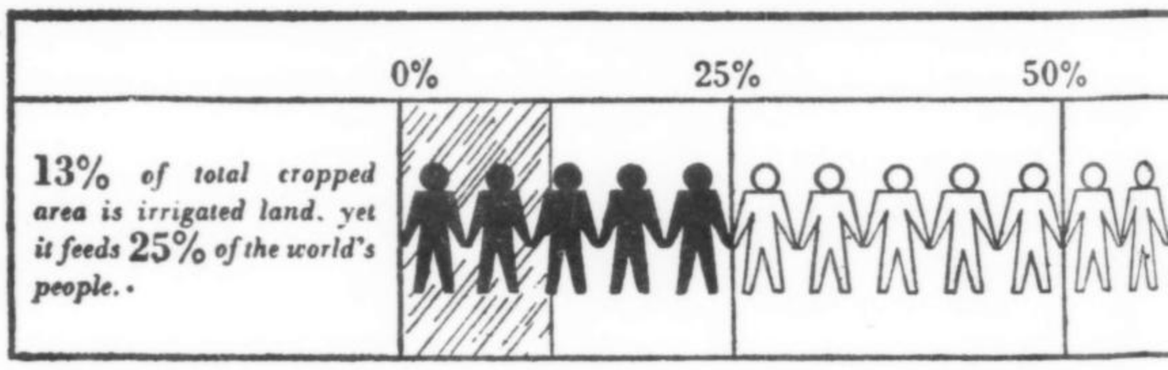
How long can the accelerating dissipation of capital go on? How soon will the wasting assets of the world be exhausted? All we know for certain is that the supplies of many hitherto essential commodities are limited and that, in many places, very rich and easily available deposits of those commodities have been or are in process of being, worked out.

Thus, in the United States, high-grade iron ore is running low; so are zinc, copper, lead; so is petroleum. And this is happening at a time when a rising population with steadily improving methods of production is calling for ever-increasing quantities of consumer goods—in other words, is making ever heavier demands on the limited reserves of our planetary capital.

Soil-Erosion Menaces Civilization

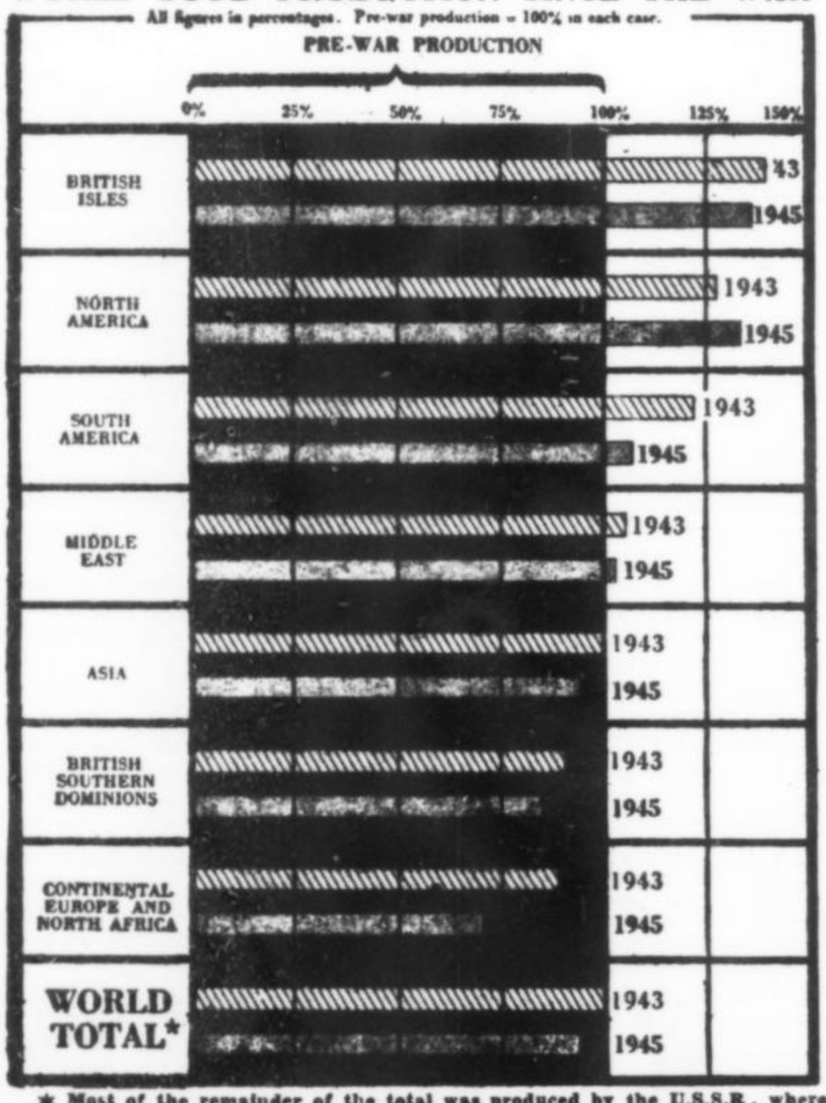
MOREOVER while population goes up, the fertility of the soil declines. Atomic warfare can destroy one particular civilization; soil-erosion can put an end to the very possibility of any civilization. Favourable weather has prevailed in North America for the last eight years and, in consequence, we hear much less of erosion than was heard during that succession of dry seasons which called the Dust Bowl into existence.

Nevertheless, in spite of considerable improvment in agricultural practices, soil-erosion still goes on and is likely, as soon as the continental weather takes another turn for the worse, to assume the same disastrous proportions as it did in the



WORLD FOOD PRODUCTION SINCE THE WAR

All figures in percentages. Pre-war production = 100% in each case.



*** Most of the remainder of the total was produced by the U.S.S.R., where wartime statistics on food production have not been published.**

(Reproduced from "Current Affairs")

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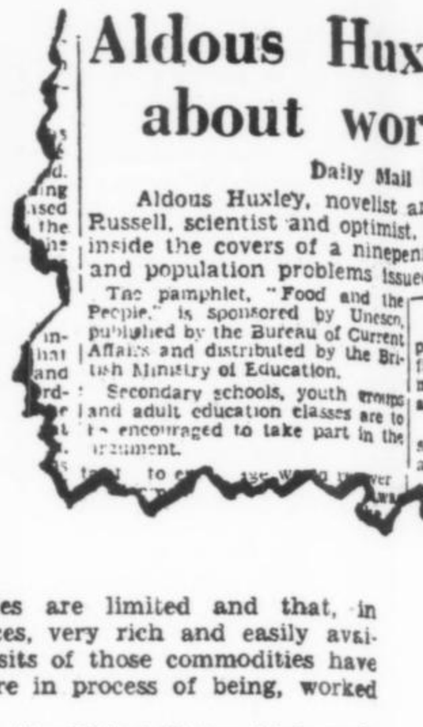


Aldous Hux about wor

Daily Mail

Aldous Huxley, novelist a Russell, scientist and optimist, inside the covers of a ninepen and population problems issue

The pamphlet, "Food and the People," is sponsored by Unesco, published by the Bureau of Current Affairs and distributed by the British Ministry of Education.

Secondary schools, youth groups and adult education classes are to be encouraged to take part in the treatment.

FOOD, PEOPLE AND POLITICS

AN unfavourable relationship between population and natural resources creates a permanent menace to peace and a permanent menace to political and personal liberty. In our days, whether there is a threat to peace depends upon whether such an over-populated country possesses an industrial plant capable of producing armaments.

There can be no aggression without the means to aggression. Lacking these means, the people of an over-populated country are confronted with two alternatives. They can either stop breeding, and so reduce the population. Or else they can go on breeding until famine, disease, political unrest and civil war combine to raise the death-rate to the point where a decreased population can re-establish a favourable relationship with natural resources.

But some over-populated countries are also industrialized; and for these there is a third alternative: to enslave or exterminate their neighbours, and so acquire more land, food, raw materials and markets.

Remembering that "God is on the side of the big battalions," the military leaders of industrialized countries with high birth-rates will feel confident of winning any war they care to wage against the countries with low birth-rates. And remembering that David killed Goliath with a stone from his sling, the military leaders of the countries with low birth-rates will come to believe that their only chance of survival consists in using, before it is too late, their technical superiority in atomic and biological weapons, in order to offset the effect of the big battalions.

So long as it remains axiomatic that nations exist for the purpose of damaging or destroying one another, the unequal increase of world population is no less dangerous, politically speaking, than the over-all increase of population pressure on resources...

A Time of Gravest Danger

ASSUMING for the sake of argument, that, in spite of nationalism and militarism, a world population policy should be agreed upon, how easy would it be to get that policy implemented? The answer is that, in the countries where its immediate implementation would be most desirable, it would be exceedingly difficult, indeed almost impossible, to do so... [And] even if a substantial cut in the present high birth-rates of the world were to take place tomorrow, the number of persons in the reproductive age-groups is at present so large that, despite the reduced birth-rate, over-all population would continue to

Huxley argues world's food

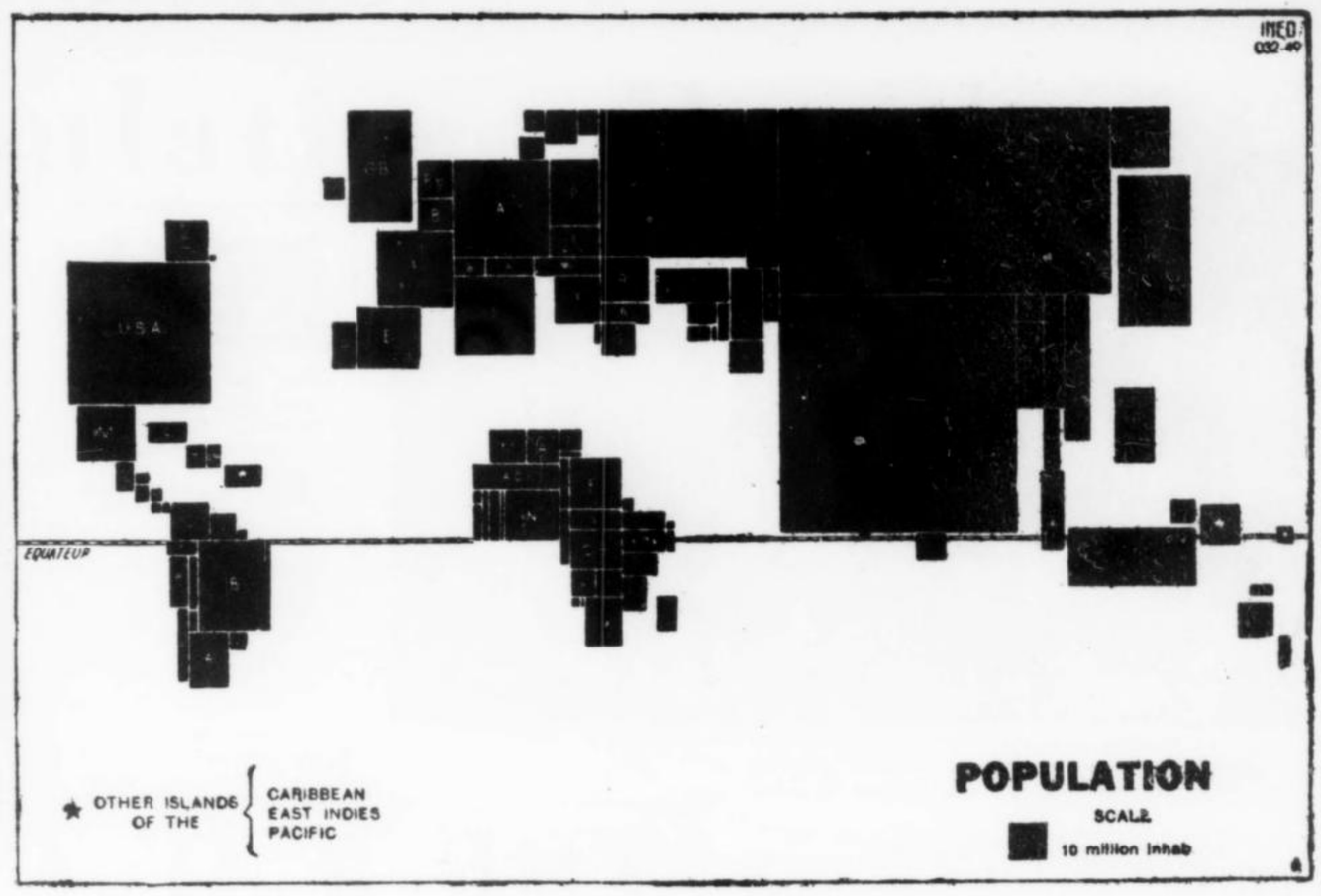
aily Mail Reporter

novelist and pessimist, and Sir John optimist, flatly contradict each other a ninepenny pamphlet on world food lems issued in London today.

Says Huxley: "Instead of poverty in the midst of plenty, we find that there is poverty in the midst of poverty. World resources are inadequate to world population.

"At the present time our plane supports a little less than two and a quarter thousand millions of

Sir John Russell



THE WAY OUT ?

By Sir John Russell

MR. HUXLEY'S thesis is extremely ingenious and well argued. I disagree completely with most of his conclusions, through there are some with which I fully concur, in particular, the necessity for more food production...

The way of mankind has always been and in all probability will always be hard... (and) only by strenuous and well-directed work can our problems ever be solved; but I am convinced that man can conquer his difficulties as they arise...

I must emphasize the impossibility of setting any limit to the world's resources Estimates made forty years ago are in most cases far below those that would be made now..

It is equally impossible to forecast the world's population over any long period. Judging from the past, it seems safe to assume that where standards of living rise, birthrates tend to fall and the proportion of older people tends to increase; on the other hand, among peasant populations where children are an economic asset the birth-rate is high.

I shall deal mainly with world food resources: these depend on the amount of land available, the use to which it is put, and the size of the population that has to be fed. The world population is estimated at about 2,200 millions and the present rate of increase at about 20 millions per annum. I shall assume that this rate continues...

The total land area of the world is about 36,000 million acres, but only a fraction of this can be cultivated.

The food problem is most serious in Great Britain, North-West Europe (excepting Denmark) and India. The possibility of trouble was foreseen by Malthus in 1798, but the fears were allayed by the opening up of North America... Fears of impending shortage have been recently revived by Sir John Orr, first director of the Food and Agriculture Organization; Sir John has raised a new problem: the need for rectifying the under-nutrition from which a large part of the world suffers.

More Land to Grow Food

Expanding Into the Dry Regions

THE customary methods of farming break down when the annual rainfall is less than about 18 inches. The North American pioneers who pushed westwards beyond the 18-inch region met the difficulty by developing methods of soil management which conserved moisture, and by modernizing the ancient art of irrigation; these methods were all empirical but they worked...

The most effective way of overcoming dry conditions is by irrigation. Two general methods are adopted: from canals and from wells.

Canal irrigation is largely concentrated around the Himalayan rivers flowing southwards in India, Pakistan and Burma and eastwards into China. The greatest of these schemes is the Lloyd Barrage in Sind, which waters five million acres of crops. the various Punjab schemes water nearly 18 million acres; it is known that the Tigris-Euphrates system has great possibilities for the future.

River valley developments, on the pattern of the Tennessee Valley Authority, are under way in many parts of the world. In such projects as Brazil's San Francisco Valley Authority, French West Africa's Niger River Authority, and Mexico's Papaloapan River Commission, irrigation is but one factor in a unified system of power, flood control and soil rehabilitation.

The other method, irrigation from wells, also very ancient, has been greatly improved by the tube wells first developed in California and much used by Sir William Stampe in India... (Stampe has urged that the possibilities in Africa, Arabia and the Middle East should be investigated.)

One of the most serious troubles following on the so-called "conquest of the drought" has been soil erosion; for long it was hardly perceptible... By 1935, however, it had become so serious that a Soil Conservation Service was set up in the United States; similar services have been established throughout the British Commonwealth. Methods of prevention and rehabilitation have now been devised and are being continuously improved... Soil erosion is no longer the menace it was—though constant watch by experts is needed.

Widening The Temperature Range

CANADA led the way in pushing the wheat belt further north into the regions where the summer, though hot enough for the growth of wheat, did not last long enough to allow of ripening... The possibilities of the regions still further north are being studied by the United States in Alaska and by the USSR. While no surplus could ever be expected, there is the hope of producing more and better for those who live there.

At the other extreme, cultivation is being pushed into the hotter regions in Queensland... The most ambitious schemes are in Africa.

Science And Wheat Production

THE beneficent results of applying science to agriculture are well seen in wheat production. This is really a dry region enterprise...

The United States greatly increased its production of wheat during the war, and from being only a small exporter, or even an importer, has during the war years produced an additional 300 million bushels, much of which was exported.

There seems every justification therefore for expecting that the great wheat-supplying countries can expand their production considerably if the need arises...

Maize, Rice And Millets

OF the other food grains, the three chief are maize, rice and the millets. Maize is very fully studied in the United States, its chief producer, and the remarkable results obtained in recent years with the new hybrids give hopeful promise for the future.

The millets have not yet been adequately studied. Their tolerance of hot, dry and poor conditions make them extremely important as food in the semi-arid hot regions of India and Africa... They are almost a virgin field for the geneticist and plant breeder, but the pioneering investigations promise no easy or spectacular successes.

Rice is more important because rice eaters probably outnumber the wheat eaters. It has been much studied in India in recent years and already the yields on the experimental farms are not uncommonly double those obtained by the neighbouring peasants.

The Overcrowded Lands

A. Great Britain And N.W. Europe

YIELDS per acre and output per man (in Great Britain) are among the highest in Europe and are three or four times greater than in Eastern Europe and the USSR; they are still rising. No British expert believes the limit is yet reached...

But our cultivated area is still shrinking, and as the population rises, more imports will become necessary; not however beyond the visible possibilities of the exporting countries to supply. The inexorable condition is, of course, that they must be paid for by harder work. Without this the standards of life must inevitably fall.

(Continued on Page 8)

increase until at least the end of the present century.

In the most favourable circumstances, we can reasonably imagine, world population is bound to rise to at least three billions before it starts to decline. This means that, whatever happens, the next half-century will be a time of the gravest political and economic danger.

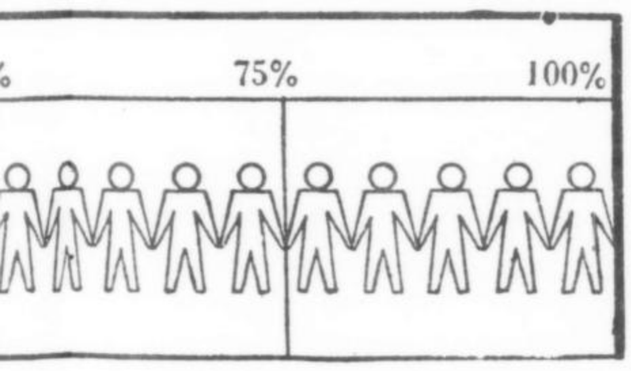
If a world population policy should be agreed upon and implemented in the near future, this danger may be expected to grow less acute after about the year 2,000. If no such policy is adopted the crisis is likely, unless something startlingly good or something startlingly bad should happen in the interval, to persist for many years thereafter...

The problem requires simultaneous attack on several fronts—the ideological front, the organizational front and the scientific-technological front. On the ideological front the formidable enemy to peace is nationalism; for it is in the context of nationalistic thinking that over-population becomes most dangerous. The depth and sincerity of religious belief are measured by the sacrifices which the believer is prepared to make for it. At the present time there are probably a thousand men and women prepared to undergo martyrdom for the local national idol, to everyone who would willingly die for his or her belief in God. Of all the motives for mass action, nationalism is, at present, by far the most potent...

A World Food Policy?

THE world's supply of food can be increased in the following ways: by improving existing methods of production, conservation and distribution; by opening up hitherto unexploited areas of land and sea; and by developing techniques for transforming easily available materials into nourishment, either directly for man or indirectly for his domesticated animals, insects and fungi.

The international Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations exists for the purpose of considering, and making recommendations about, these ways of increasing the world's food supply. The



organization possesses no authority, and one of its ambitious schemes—the Orr Plan for a World Food Board empowered to buy and distribute surpluses, to stabilize prices and preserve an "ever-normal granary"—has been rejected by a majority of the governments concerned.

But there are other ways of getting results: the delegates to the F.A.O. are extremely competent, and we can certainly count on them, in the years ahead, to do as good a job as the various national governments, to which they are responsible, will permit...

WHEN one looks at a map of the world... shaded according to the density of population, one sees that large areas are almost uninhabited. Most are uninhabited because, under present conditions, they are uninhabitable. In some places the expenditure of more or less considerable quantities of human labour and capital might change the conditions and make the land productive.

As world population rises and the demand for food yet further outstrips the supply, it will become increasingly worth while to spend time, work and money on tasks which, in present circumstances, are economically unjustifiable. And if atomic power can be harnessed without too much danger, and made available at a very cheap rate, many projects at present quite unjustifiable would become matters of practical policy.

(Continued on Page 8)

The success of dry farming methods is illustrated by the Indian millet crop, shown on the left.

For the adjoining land (on right) dry farming was not employed.

Photos by permission of Sir John Russell F.R.S.

THE WAY OUT ?

(Continued from preceding Page)

The countries of North Western Europe, including Western Germany, are in a similar position, needing to import food; they were, however, taken as a group, self-sufficient in meat and dairy produce before the war. There was then so much movement of grain from the Danubian countries and Poland to the West that the net European deficit of wheat and rye amounted only to about 5 per cent of the total consumption... If the former east-west movement of grain is restored, Europe's bread supplies will be secure, but unpredictable political factors come into play. There is no physical reason why North Western Europe should suffer food shortage as long as there is peace.

B. The Indian Problem

OF all the food problems of the world, India's and Pakistan's are probably the most difficult. The population has grown rapidly, from 306 millions in 1921 to 338 millions in 1931 and 389 millions in 1941: increases of 10 and 15 per cent respectively...

Population increases at the present rate would, unless yields rose, require an additional 3 or 4 million acres of food crops each year. There still remains uncultivated land equal in area to about 70 0/0 of the cultivated land, some of which can be utilized. But the greatest hope is by increasing the ryots yields. More irrigation, more fertilizer, better cultivation and better seed are all being developed.

India's rainfall, however, is always uncertain, and importation of rice is always necessary. There are abundant potential supplies in Burma, Siam and Indo-China... It seems impossible, however, for India's food problems to be solved if the population goes on increasing at its present rate.

C. The Double Task

INCREASING output per man, and output per acre, in the old occupied lands, is really the crux of the world food problem; for it is estimated that some 90 0/0 of the world's food is consumed in or near the land of its production and only about 10 0/0 is put on to the world market; further, that about 70 0/0 of the world's population are food producers or their direct dependents.

It is this 70 0/0 who determine the fate of the remaining 30. Presumably they would be the last to feel the pinch of hunger, should it come. Most of them are peasants, their chief produce is grain, and much of their farming is very inefficient, with no great possibility of improvement as it stands.

There no longer are peasants in Great Britain but there were up to the 18th century, and their systems and output were on a level with those of the present day peasants of Eastern Europe. Great Britain then changed its system... Denmark effected the change later; the farms had to be smaller, but a system of co-operation has been developed which has led to high efficiency of production and a standard of living that is the envy of most of Europe and far above anything in Eastern Europe and beyond.

The fundamental difference between the peasant and the Western farmer is that the peasant is a self-sufficing unit, producing mainly for himself and his family, selling only his surpluses, while the Western farmer is producing for the market...

One farm worker in Eastern Europe and the USSR produces food equivalent to the needs of some four or five persons, including himself, but in Great Britain and Denmark the production per man is about four times as high, one man feeding perhaps 10 or 20 persons, who thus become available for other occupations.

D. New Methods of Farming

AN entirely different system, collective farming, has been adopted in Soviet Russia. This requires large areas of land...; it is perhaps better suited for grain production than for livestock.

Peasant farming can undoubtedly be transformed into more highly productive systems capable of producing more food of higher nutritive value and of raising output both per man and per acre.

Meanwhile, the steady advance of science and the practice of agriculture in the more advanced countries can be applied elsewhere when conditions permit. Drainage, better use of fertilizers, better seeds, better control of disease, have increased the already high rate of output in Great Britain... The average yield of milk is 600 gallons per cow, but the good farmer expects 1,000 or more.

There are still possibilities of improvement even in the most advanced countries. Losses due to insect pests and diseases are still high; the current estimate (which is little more than a guess) puts them at 10 per cent in Great Britain, while livestock diseases are estimated to lose us about 6 million full year's rations of meat, 200 million gallons of milk and 1,500 million eggs.

The Food and Agriculture Organization has estimated that mites, pests and rodents destroy some 65 million tons of the world's grain per annum—more than the entire wheat and rye supply for all Europe before the war...

E. Prospects for the Future

TWO sets of problems are involved in world supplies: the rehabilitation of European agriculture, and the expansion of our present agriculture to supply a world population increasing at its present rate.

The first of these should fairly soon be accomplished; first grain supplies, then, more slowly, dairy produce and meat should come back to pre-war level... The permanent expansion of food production can be achieved by increasing the area under cultivation, by increasing output per acre, and by reducing waste and losses.

Only about 5 to 10 per cent of the world's land area is yet used for food production to any extent and there remain considerable regions in the tropics that can be utilized with the help of synthetic insecticides and modern implements. In all countries there still remain areas that could be cultivated.

The average output per acre is everywhere considerably less than is obtained by the best of the farmers, and much levelling up is possible by education and co-operation; agricultural science and engineering are continuously advancing and even in the most advanced countries yields are increasing. The causes of the wastes and losses are gradually being better understood and brought under control. As the need arises, expansion of food production can continue and it is impossible to forecast how far it can go...

F. The Hard Way

THE change that would most increase food production would be to transform the present predominantly peasant type of rural economy to a mixed farm type as adopted in the more advanced countries.

While increases in food production can be confidently expected, they will certainly involve considerable work and much scientific study. There is no prospect of easy living: the lot of mankind will always be hard. Each nation must either produce its own food or produce goods and services that will induce other countries to produce it for them.

It is impossible to estimate the rate of agricultural progress and therefore impossible to suggest a safe rate of increase of human population. At present rates there is no need to fear shortage in our time, except in India and parts of Africa. The possibilities of scientific advancement are incalculable. What is needed is to put these advances into practice, and to treat the problems internationally. The key to the problem of FOOD AND PEOPLE is international co-operation.

THE DOUBLE CRISIS

(Continued from preceding Page)

Meanwhile, it has been reported that the Russians have succeeded in thawing out the Siberian tundra and converting it into fields of rye and wheat. Much hitherto barren land in sub-Arctic Asia and America might become productive if this can be done...

To break the politically dangerous monoplies in fertile territories and in access to the sea, chemists and biologists should be enlisted to collaborate on a series of Manhattan Projects, not of destruction, but of creation. Thus, the Germans are said to have used a method for converting organic waste products, such as sawdust, into a sugar solution for the culture of edible yeasts.

Such a technique, if suitably developed, might provide much-needed proteins for those millions who, at present, have to subsist on an unbalanced diet of cereals. And the goal of another of these projects would be the synthesis of chlorophyll, the substance which permits the growing plant to use the sun's energy to convert air and water into carbohydrates.

Up to the present the rulers of the world have been ready to lavish time, energy, money and brains upon the development of atomic and biological weapons; it might be a good thing to use the resources of applied science for the relief of the world's hunger and the removal of one of the principal causes of war.

Natural monoplies in raw materials are even more politically dangerous than natural monoplies in food. When located in the territory of a strong nation, deposits of minerals necessary to industry are a standing temptation to the abuse of military and economic power; when located in that of a weak nation, they are a standing temptation to aggression from abroad.

Research should be deliberately organized for the purpose of discovering universally available substitutes for these relatively rare and most unevenly distributed minerals. If successful, such research would have two beneficial results: it would break the natural monoplies which are so politically dangerous; and it would help our industrial civilization to shift from its precarious basis in the exploitation of rapidly wasting assets to a more secure, *a more nearly permanent*, foundation.

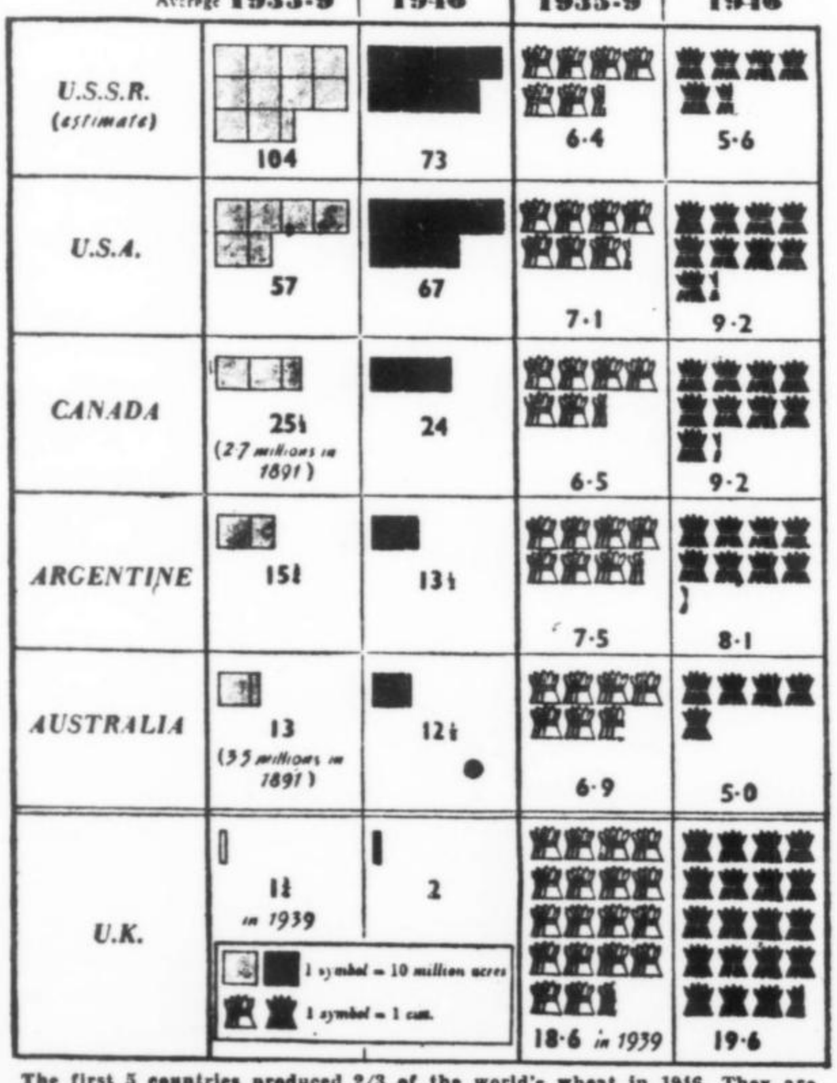
INDUSTRIAL civilization is based upon the exploitation of wasting assets by means of man-power and the power generated by coal, oil, gas and falling water. If successfully harnessed, atomic energy will increase the available power to an enormous extent. From this, two results may be anticipated, one unfavourable, the other favourable.

To begin with we may expect that increased power will lead to the more effective exploitation and consequently to the more rapid exhaustion of the more easily available supplies of such indispensable minerals as iron, tin, copper, zinc and the like. Atomic energy will permit us to enjoy the prosperity of the spendthrift who lives gloriously for a few years on inherited capital. If this were all that could be expected, the discovery of atomic energy would be wholly disastrous. But fortunately this is not the whole story.

Given an indefinite amount of cheap power, it will become economically possible to exploit deposits whose low concentration of desirable minerals render them, under present conditions, practically worthless.

(Continued on Page 9)

CAN WE INCREASE WORLD WHEAT SUPPLIES?



The first 5 countries produced 2/3 of the world's wheat in 1946. They are also large exporters. Many others, especially China, India, Italy and France, also produce large amounts of wheat, but consume it all at home. Probably 45 million acres in Canada, 5 1/2 million acres in Australia, and large areas in the Argentine, could still be cultivated.

Population Problems of India and Pakistan

by Dr. Sripati Chandrasekhar

INDIA'S population problem arises primarily out of an extremely high fertility accompanied by high mortality which is only slowly declining. The resulting increase, which amounted to more than four million a year in an undivided India, need not constitute a problem if the Indian level of living were high enough to absorb the additional population without reducing the level of living, and if a majority of the population enjoyed the irreducible minimum requirements of decent human existence in terms of food, health, clothing, shelter, employment and leisure for recreation. But India's level of living is so low that any further addition to the number of poor families may well be disastrous.

Growth of Population

THE population of the combined dominions of India and Pakistan today is nearly 450 millions or about one fifth of the total world population. The rate of increase of the Indian population, though high, has not been abnormal. The problem in India is not however the rate of increase but the **net addition** to the existing population every decade.

Because of the large number of India's existing population, even a modest rate of increase of 10 or 15 per cent yields a net gain of some 50 millions, in itself larger than the population of any European country except Germany or Russia, or any Latin American country. And it is this large net addition that constitutes the problem because it nullifies all efforts to improve the admittedly very low standard of living of the Indian people. All efforts to increase the production of food, other commodities and services to give a better per capita share to the existing population are largely frustrated by this increasing addition to the population.

Fertility

AMONG all demographic factors, the rate of fertility is the most important, for international lack of balance in fertility constitutes the crux of the world population problem.

The significant fact about the Indian birth rate is not that it is one of the highest in the world but that it has shown no signs of decline during the last fifty years. In Western and industrialized countries, the decline in fertility began in urban areas, and the rural areas tended to follow the downward trend after a time lag. This has been so because industrialization has been accompanied by the widespread adoption of the planned family habit.

Though India may conform to this experience eventually, it has not been the case till now. The lower fertility in Indian urban areas must be explained in terms of adverse sex ratio where the relative paucity of females and the absence of wives constitute a remarkable feature, which will be discussed later.

Mortality

INDIA'S population growth during the last century has been conditioned mainly by the high but fluctuating death rate. Famines, epidemics, the general unsanitary environment and wars have contributed to the death rate. During "normal" years the death rate has been consistently high because of the striking lack of public sanitation and hygiene, and widespread mal—and under—nutrition of the population. It can be said with some truth that famine and epidemics alone have controlled the growth of India's population during the last hundred years.

The Indian death rate is high—30 per thousand. The recorded death rate for 1931 was 24 per thousand and 22 for 1940, but these are under-estimates because of incomplete returns. This means that more than 10 million people die every year in India.

The most disquieting factor of the Indian death rate is the high incidence of mortality among first year infants, women in child-birth and women of the reproductive age group. Nearly one-fourth of the babies born die during their first year. About half the deaths among infants occur in the first month and, of these, nearly sixty per cent in the first week. Mortality remains high throughout early childhood. About forty-nine per cent of the total mortality in any given year is among those below ten years of age, while the corresponding figure for England is only twelve per cent.

As for maternal mortality, at least 200,000 women die every year during child-birth or 100 out of every thousand!

Health Conditions

THUS, out of every hundred born, one quarter die by the time they reach their first birthday. When the fifth birthday arrives, forty per cent have disappeared through death, and when the twentieth birthday is at hand only fifty per cent are left. By the sixtieth birthday only fifteen per cent survive.

But despite the present mortality rates, the average annual addition to the population of both the Dominions was five million. During the last two decades there has been, however, a steady fall in the general mortality-rate. A further fall is bound to occur if the large-scale programmes for improving the health of the country by various planning committees are effectively put into operation.

It has been calculated that even a slight improvement in the present health conditions can save three million infant lives. When this is done, India's population will increase by not five but eight million a year. And it is possible that the 83 million increase that took place between 1921 and 1941 may take place between 1941 and 1951. A planned and purposeful control of mortality without a corresponding control of the birth rate can only have disastrous consequences for India.

Today, however, the death rate is the decisive factor in Indian demography. No comment is necessary on this inordinate and tragic loss of human lives. Nor is this all. There are many who do not die but who cannot be counted among the truly living, healthy, active and gainfully employed because of the shocking nature of Indian morbidity.

Social Factors

THE demographic situation of any region is largely the product of its peculiar social characteristics affecting in their turn births, deaths and migration. The population problem in India can conceivably be very different if the social institutions of early marriage, universality of marriage, the ban on widow re-marriage and the joint Hindu family and other institutions and attitudes resulting in an adverse sex ratio, among others, did not exist.

But as these institutions, with a socio-religious tradition and sanction behind them, exist and condition the lives of an overwhelming majority of the people, the demographic problem has become what it is today.

EARLY marriage and universality of marriage are dominant features of the Indian social scene. While child marriage as such has largely disappeared, a majority of girls between 15 and 20 are married. The girls in rural areas marry as soon as they reach puberty, and begin bearing children early.

THE second factor is the universality of the married state. Every-one in India, sooner or later, gets married. It is a quasi-religious duty. For a representative census year like 1931, we find that 467 males and 492 females out of every thousand were married. This means, that taking into consideration all widows, some widowers, ascetics and mendicants, almost everyone of marriageable age was actually married.

Scarcity of Females

A THIRD striking characteristic of the Indian social situation is the scarcity of females. There has been a deficiency of women in the Indian population within the knowledge of the country's regular census history.

Several explanations have been offered for this phenomenon of deficiency of females. Some explain it as the result of relative under-enumeration of women. Some argue that the excessive masculinity is an index of "racial" decadence.

Some others have offered a biogolical explanation: "The Indian caste system with its exogamous **gotra** (sept) and endogamous caste is a perfect method of preserving what is called in genetics "pure line..." This explanation is at best plausible but we have very little knowledge about the presence of a genetic factor, if any, in the Hindu caste system. While there may be some truth in this explanation in the sense that excessive inbreeding is generally harmful, it does not explain the sex ratio at birth.

The available statistics tell a different story. Actually, between the ages of 1-5, India has an excess of girls and only at the next age group the sex ratio is reversed in favour of males. A more rational explanation for the paucity of females is that... Hindu parents put greater premium on male children and are apt to treat female children with relative neglect, especially when they are assailed by infantile ailments. This, coupled with early marriage and a high birth rate, results in greater and early death among women.

Ban on Widow Re-marriage

THE social ban on widow re-marriage is yet another reactionary feature of Indian demography. The Indian demographic situation is closely interwoven with social problems. Since most widowers remarry and since they cannot marry widows, they have to seek wives among girls much their juniors. This unequal combination from the point of view of age itself leads to an increasing number of

widows, for the old husband passes away, leaving behind his young wife a widow. And, of course, she cannot remarry.

The disproportionate sex ratio and the resulting deficiency of women keeps up the custom of early marriage for girls. As bachelors and widowers have to take brides of any age they can get, the disparity between partners is increased. This difference in age increases widowhood. Since widows cannot remarry, widowhood increases the already existing shortage of eligible brides, which means of course the paucity of women. Thus the vicious wheel whirls on.

The two significant facts about the wasteful balance between births and deaths in India are the large decennial increases in the population and the tremendous human cost at which this increase is being maintained in India.

The problem of population has to be considered in relation to the means of sustenance, mainly food supply. Nearly 70 per cent of the population is dependent on agriculture for a livelihood. As the mouths to be fed every year increase, the area of productive land diminishes.

What is the way out?

[*To Be Continued*]

(In our May issue, Dr. Chandrasekhar will examine some of the possible answers to the Indian population problem in terms of improved agriculture, industrialization, migration and birth control and will sum up his latest findings on the food and population situation in India).

DID YOU KNOW?

- **More than half of all the people in the world live in Asia and that more than half the rest are crowded into Europe.**
- **Only eight per cent of the world's land surface—about four billion acres—is used to produce food.**
- **Rats and insects rob the world of 33 million tons of stored grain each year—enough to provide the basic diet of 150 million people.**
- **If India's population continues to increase at its present rate it will total about 800 million within 50 years.**
- **In many parts of China there are more than 2,000 people per square mile.**
- **All that remains to-day of the "impenetrable forests" in the Lebanon, mentioned by a contemporary of Ramses II, is a tiny wood belt on a mountain side in the region of Djebel el Khodid.**
- **Fighting against the deadly rinderpest cattle disease, the F.A.O. has immunized two Chinese provinces by vaccinating 300,000 animals.**

THE DOUBLE CRISIS

(Continued from Page 8)

In other words, the harnessing of atomic power is likely to accelerate the dissipation of what may be called our high-grade capital. but it should postpone the final onset of bankruptcy by making available to industry the low-grade capital which it now costs us too much to spend...

Applied science can... be used in the fight for liberty no less effectively than in the fight for peace. Let us assume, for example, that a means will be discovered for substantially increasing the supply of food. This would have the same kind of result as the discovery of a second New World. It would make life easier for the

inhabitants of over-crowded countries and, by doing so, it would remove the necessity for some of the centralized and peremptory social controls which must always be imposed when the pressure of population upon resources becomes excessive.

Meanwhile, every day brings its quota of some fifty-five thousand new human beings to a planet which, in the same period of time, has lost through erosion almost the same number of acres of productive land and goodness knows how many tons of irreplaceable minerals. Whatever may be happening to the superficial crisis, to the crisis on the political, or industrial or financial levels, that which underlies it persists and deepens.

The current almost explosive growth in world population began about two centuries ago and will continue, in all probability, for at least another hundred years. So far as we know, nothing quite like it has ever happened before. We are faced by a problem that has no earlier precedent. To discover and, having discovered, to apply the remedial measures is going to be exceedingly difficult. And the longer we delay, the greater the difficulty will be.

A rapidly rising population and low level of living are the menacing twin evils of India.

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Siam Making All-Out Drive To Improve School System

Early in February of this year, at the request of the Siamese Government, Unesco sent a consultative educational mission to undertake a brief study of the educational system of the country.

The mission has now completed its work and Sir John Sargent, former educational adviser to the Indian Government, who headed the mission, and Dr. Pedro T. Orata, who has worked with American Indians in South Dakota and helped organize Unesco's educational mission to the Philippines, are now preparing a full report on their findings. This report will shortly be submitted to the Siamese Government.

For the benefit of Courier *readers, Dr. Orata reports, in the following article, on the Mission to Siam:*

By **Dr. Pedro T. ORATA**

SIAM (or Thailand), which is shaped like a kite with a coastline stretching over 1,300 miles, is a country with one of the lowest population densities in Asia and the Far East—30 per square kilometre.

Although 90 0/0 of its people are engaged in farming, only 10 0/0 of its arable land is being exploited. Recently the Government embarked on an ambitious programme of industrialization and hopes to introduce mechanized farming into parts of the country in the near future. Large factories are being planned and existing industries are being modernized.

Economic and technical development on a large scale, therefore, is one of the big goals of modern-day Siam. Indeed, according to certain authorities, if current plans materialize it is possible that within the foreseeable future there may arise in Siam an industrial centre that will hold its own with modern Japan.

Illiteracy Problem

HOWEVER, in a country like Siam, where 70 0/0 of the inhabitants are illiterate, lack of education constitutes a formidable impediment to technical development. As Dr. Torres Bodet recently declared: "The first essential for any technological and economic progress is to raise the standard of education of the general population."

Fully aware of this need, the Government of Siam has been making a strong effort in recent years to improve and extend its educational system.

In 1948, Siam asked Unesco's cooperation in a campaign against illiteracy which the Government had undertaken. For this work, the services were secured of a well-known literary expert from the United States, Dr. Frank Laubach.

In February of this year a Unesco Consultative Educational Mission, composed of Sir John Sargent of the British Council and the present writer, arrived in Bangkok to study and offer suggestions on some of the educational problems of Siam. While the Mission was at work, Dr. Laubach was conducting his literacy campaign in the province of Nakon Rajsima, some two hundred miles north-east of Bangkok.

The Mission conferred with Government education leaders in a preliminary examination of the country's schooling problems and then left the capital for a study of rural schools of all types. It compared educational resources and opportunities in vocational and technical schools, in elementary schools and in teacher training and adult education centres. The Mission also visited rural communities noted for outstanding home industry projects such as silk weaving and pottery-making, in order to determine how these could be adapted to fundamental and general education.

Siam is confronted with many of the education problems which face other countries of the world today: inadequately trained and paid teachers, an inadequate education budget, indifference of adults to available educational opportunities, and irregular child and youth attendance in schools.

Most Siamese teachers themselves have not completed their high-school education. The six-day school week offers little time for recreational or other activities; over-emphasis is given to "book work" and examinations; and the curriculum is apparently geared along college preparatory lines —this in spite of the fact that only one out of 2,000 pupils who enter the first grade ever reaches college.

This may explain why, of Siam's 4,000,000 children of compulsory school age, over 1,250,000 or 33 0/0 do not attend classes. Of the remaining two and a half million, less than one third reach the fourth grade.

As a result of its observations and the exchange of views with education officials, teachers, students and local authorities, the Mission felt that a number of suggestions appeared to be pertinent for Siam at the present time.

First, the school curriculum should be improved in the light of modern living requirements—and to this end an educational commission should be formed to undertake a complete study, in liaison with Unesco, of the entire educational system of Siam. The Government has agreed that the commission will be formed this year.

Schooling For Citizenship

Second, at least seven years of schooling should be made compulsory to insure permanent literacy and adequate citizenship training.

Third, teacher training facilities should be extended, salaries increased and educational requirements raised to two years of college study for elementary school teachers, and the equivalent of the bachelor's degree for secondary school teachers

Fourth, sufficient decentralization of the education system should be permitted to enable teachers to adapt programmes to local needs and stimulate local initiative.

In planning new school curricula, the determining factor should be the extent to which they are related to the problems of present living in the different regions of the country. A curriculum that fits one country and people well does not necessarily fit another; similarly, enough variation should exist to allow for regional differences in curriculum content and in the choice of vocational subjects.

Thus in Central Siam, where fishing and farming predominate, these subjects should be emphasized and the pupils started in their work toward participating in the intelligent pursuance of these occupations.

The Siamese Government have shown full appreciation of Unesco's efforts to help reconstruct their educational system, and are extremely eager for continued assistance so that the suggestions made may be carried out as speedily and as effectively as possible.

'Hamlet's Castle' Prepares For Adult Education Meeting

NEXT June 16th, approximately 150 educational workers from many nations will gather in the Great Knight's Hall of the ancient "Hamlet's Castle" of Krongsoorg at Elsinore, Denmark, for the opening of the first international post-war conference on adult education.

From places as far apart as Norway and Australia, Iceland and New Zealand they will meet for ten days to talk over their problems and to lay the foundations of a permanent international adult education movement, one of whose aims will be to develop a better understanding between peoples.

For the scope and significance of adult education has changed considerably since it began to be developed towards the end of the 19th century.

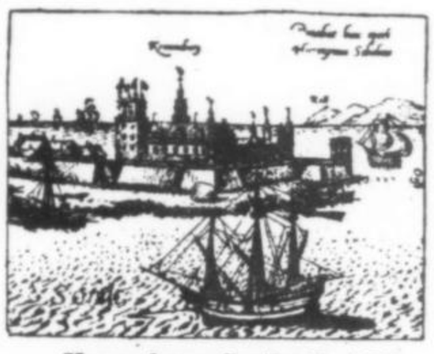
In North America, Great Britain and the Scandinavian countries, where the movement made the greatest initial progress, it usually meant "the three R's" for grown-ups or apprenticeship training for a trade.

THERE are still many countries where the term "adult education" is used to describe the fight against illiteracy. But, for practical purposes, the teaching of literacy is now generally considered as a special field and Unesco, for example, has given it the name of "fundamental" education.

In the countries which have largely solved their illiteracy problems, adult education, in its broadest sense, means helping individuals to be equal to the responsibilities which the growth of democracy has brought to ordinary men and women. In other words, adult education today seeks to develop a spirit of understanding and appreciation of other people's cultures and customs, by improving the individual's general education and arousing interest in current world questions.

ADULT education today takes on different forms according to the country where it is being applied. It is to be found in the study circles of Sweden, the public libraries of Denmark, the extension work of American universities, the radio forums of Canada and the working-men's colleges of England.

Adult education is not just "book learning", however. Its activities range from evening courses to music and dramatic performances and include domestic and technical training, while at the same time embracing arts and crafts and folk dancing hobbies.



Krongsborg Castle C. 1580 Drawing by Hans Knieper

The extent of the movement in some parts of the world, for example in Great Britain, the United States and the Scandinavian countries, is out of all proportion to the slow progress made in others. Moreover, these more advanced countries were cut off from one another by the war, and some of their methods now fail to meet the rapidly changing needs of life.

So there is a great need for the pre-war contacts to be re-established and for others to be developed, so that each nation can become acquainted with the achievements — and shortcomings —of adult education experiments attempted by others.

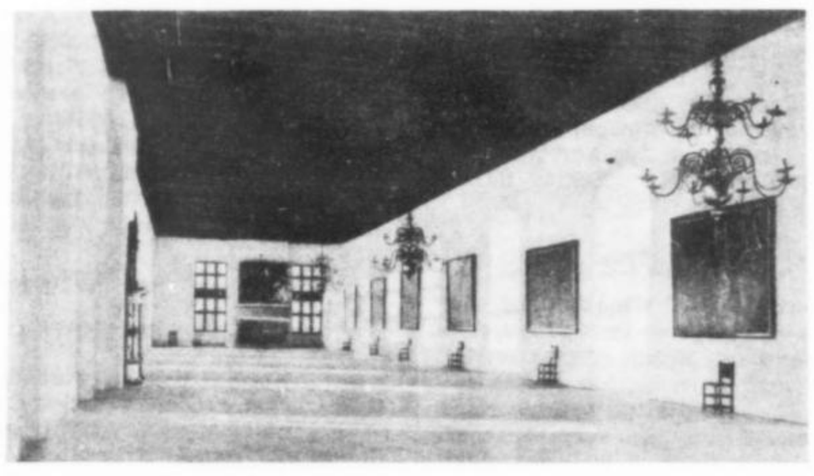
THIS is why Unesco, as part of its adult education programme, is seeking to bridge the ten-year gap caused by the war, by calling on adult education workers and leaders from every country in the world —whether a member of Unesco or not—to meet and exchange their experiences and ideas. In this way, it hopes to re-establish international contacts among adult education workers and to find out what new forms this branch of education might take to meet the demands of both today and tomorrow.

Among the questions to be studied at the Unesco conference in Denmark are the extent to which traditional adult education methods can be improved by the use of new materials and techniques such as film, radio and the press, records, posters and graphs, discussion groups, the dramatization of current events, and the study of foreign languages.

THE conference will be officially opened in the Krongsborg Castle, after which the delegates will hold their meetings in the International People's College at Elsinore, one of the most famous adult education centres in the world whose foundation was inspired by the Danish Folk High Schools, first set up in 1844 by Bishop Grundtvig. The International "People's College" was established in 1921, in a small manor house at Elsinore which was adapted as a college. Its first students—clerks, university men, farmers and city workers from seven countries—helped to put the buildings and garden into shape as they began their studies.

Since then, over 4,600 students, representing over 40 countries, have attended its regular summer and winter courses, and over 8,000 its vacation courses.

The example of this international co-operation in education will probably not be lost to the delegates to the Unesco conference, who will be living and working in the same rooms and lecture halls previously occupied by thousands of students of all nationalities.



Great Knight's Hall Krongsborg Castle in Denmark where adult education conference will open in June.

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Unesco Sponsors History of Science Publications

By
Jean PELSENEER,
of the Académie Internationale d'Histoire des Sciences; former Professor at the University of Brussels.

ONE of the earliest official documents published by Unesco says that an International Institute of the History of Science might have the aim not only of establishing clearly the manner in which all the peoples of the earth have contributed to the progress of our knowledge of nature, but also of examining the interactions between different past cultures. One group of specialists could concentrate on Chinese-European relations, another on Arab-European relations... Not a few scholars are available, but their work is crippled for lack of facilities. No subject deserves help more. (1).

In a world increasingly dependent upon science and conscious of this modern trend, the importance assigned to the history of science and scientific thought, especially in the university and secondary school education of many countries, is taking on added significance. Scientific associations such as the Swedish Society for the History of Science and the Chinese Society for the History of Medicine have been formed.

TO encourage this rather new subject of the history of science and scientific thought, which might be regarded as the instrument of the scientific humanism of tomorrow, Unesco sponsored the establishment of an International Union for the History of Science. It was officially created at the Fifth International Congress of the History of Science in October 1947.

The purpose of this Union, which is the tenth of the international scientific unions affiliated with the International Council of Scientific Unions, is to contribute directly to the work of Unesco and of the International Council in the field of the history of science.

Today the Union comprises five scientific commissions. The Commission on the History of the Social Relations of Science is under the chairmanship of M. Léon Rosenfeld, of the University of Manchester. The Commission on the Teaching of the History of Science is engaged in the publication of a survey of the teaching of the history of science throughout the world. The three other commissions of the Union deal with Bibliography, Publications and the Middle East.

SINCE its creation, seventeen national History of Science groups, with a total of several thousand members, have become part of the Union and other national groups are about to be constituted. The International Society of the History of Medicine has also become a member. In 1950 the Union, with the help of Unesco, will organize the Sixth International Congress of the History of Science and also the first International Congress on the History of Medicine to meet since 1938. In addition, at the suggestion of Unesco, History committees, sections or commissions have been or are being set up in several of the nine international Union of the History of Science.

The Unions's publications include two volumes subsidized by Unesco which have appeared in the **Collection de Travaux de l'Académie Internationale d'Histoire des Sciences.** Other volumes are in the press, among them an edition of Lavoisier's correspondence.

PARTICULAR reference, however, should be made to the **Archives Internationales d'Histoire des Sciences** (Hermann & Cie, publishers, 6, rue de la Sorbonne, Paris, 5e), published with the help of a grant from Unesco. Six numbers of this quarterly have so far appeared; the latest issues contain nearly 300 pages, and the contributors to the review include such distinguished scientists as M. Louis de Broglie, as well as most of the historians of science all over the world.

The **Archives**, which publishes articles in French, English, Spanish, Italian or German, is probably the first truly international review on the history of science and, in the spirit of Unesco, attempts to show the contribution of all cultures and all ages to the development of science and the solidarity of the nations in their attitude towards scientific progress. The valuable assistance in the editing of the review given by the members of Unesco's four Field Science Co-operation Offices at Cairo, New Delhi, Shanghai and Montevideo should be mentioned. In the April 1949 issue, first place is given to a lecture by Dr. Joseph Needham, F.R.S., to the Third Session of the General Conference of Unesco at Beirut, entitled: "Asia's Contribution to the Unity of Science."

(1) "Science and Unesco": International Scientific Co-operation, London, page 47. Published by the Unesco Preparatory Commission.

Science Teachers' Booklet on Sale

Unesco has published a second edition of the booklet, "Suggestions for Science Teachers in Devastated Countries" for sale in all countries. The first edition was distributed free, by Unesco, to schools in devastated areas.

Prepared by J.P. Stephenson, science master at City of London School, this 88-page, fully illustrated booklet shows how teachers lacking elementary scientific equipment can make apparatus from simple, everyday materials and at little cost. Copies may be obtained from Unesco House, Paris; His Majesty's Stationery Office, London; or from Unesco sales agents. The price is $ 1.00 or five shillings sterling or 265 French francs.

The current edition, like the previous one, is in English. In June Unesco will publish other editions in Spanish, Arabic and Chinese for sale at the same price.

Human Right Essays To Appear this Month

Before the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was approved by the United Nations General Assembly last December, Unesco had already consulted eminent philosophers, jurists, writers and educators in many countries on the philosophical foundations that could be given to such a declaration.

Their replies have been used to compile a Volume of Essays on the philosophical principles of human rights which will be published in French this month.

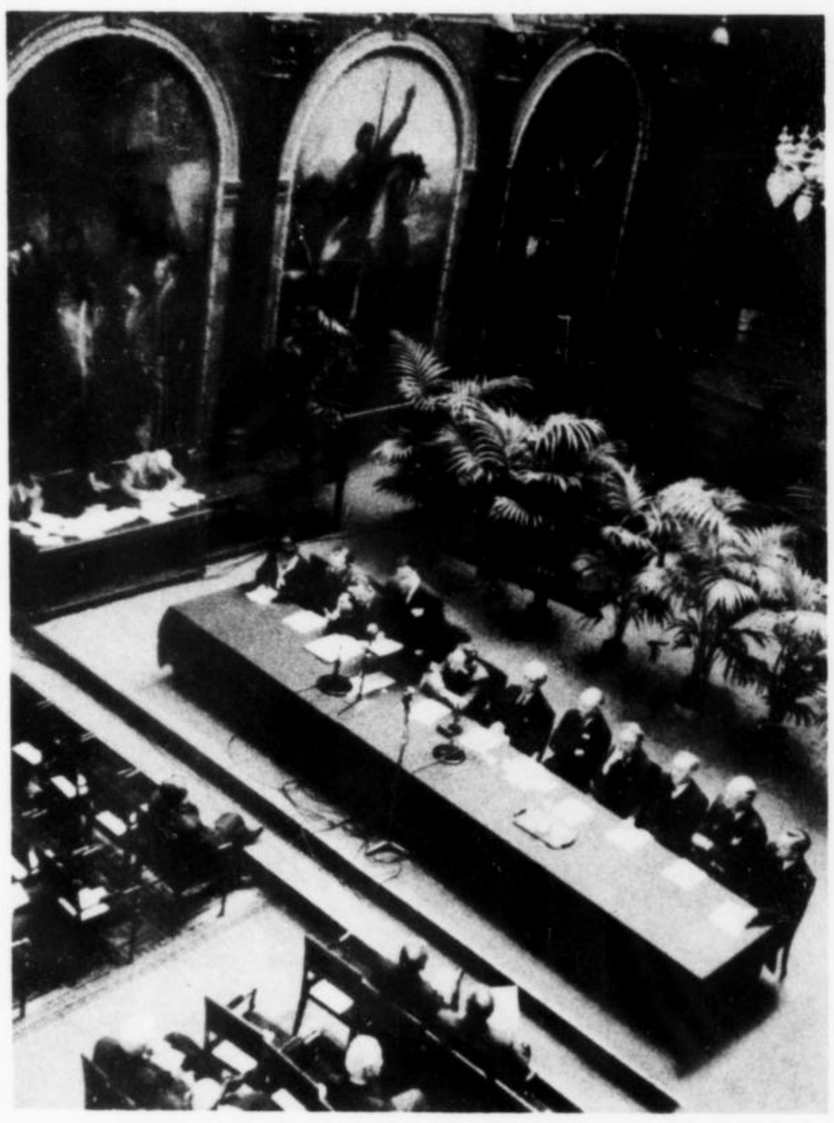
Health Experts Set Up World Medical Council

By
Joseph HANDLER
Chief, Public Information Office World Health Organization

"IF there is one field in which humanity should affirm its solidarity, it is surely in the campaign against disease", Dr. Jaime Torres Bodet, Director-General of Unesco, declared on February 21, 1949 at the inauguration of the Belgian National Commission for Unesco in Brussels.

Two months later, in the same city, an important step was taken towards the accomplishment of the aim defined by the Director-General through the creation of a Council which, for the first time in history, will co-ordinate the work of medical science congresses on a world-wide basis.

The establishment of the Council came as a result of the discussions of an international conference, jointly sponsored by Unesco and the World Health Organization, which held its one week session in the Palais des Académies of Brussels and which was attended by representatives of more than 40 medical non-governmental organizations, with membership covering five continents and practically all countries of the world.



In the richly decorated "Palais des Académies" in Brussels, Dr. Walter H.C. Laves, Unesco's Deputy Director-General, welcomes delegates to the recent medical conference.

"Why do we need another Organization?" "How will the work of the Council contribute to the betterment of health?" "How does its aim fit in with the general purposes of Unesco and of WHO?" These and similar questions were raised several times during the conference in Brussels.

DESPITE the rather complicated and academic sounding title of the new Organization, the answers to those questions are relatively simple.

In order to fight the age-old scourges which have brought and are still bringing untold miseries to mankind, the mobilization of all resources created by modern science and medicine is a **condition sine qua non.** Such mobilization could take place only if a free and constant exchange of medical and scientific know-how is ensured between scholars and physicians of all countries.

Entrance to "Palais des Académies"

One of the best media of such an exchange of ideas and of knowledge is the institution of medical congresses. To promote the work of those gatherings is therefore to perfect the very weapons with which we can defeat tuberculosis, venereal diseases, malaria, cancer, to name only a few of the most terrible enemies of man.

IN the present complex state of scientific development, the classical system of holding medical congresses appears obsolete. For one thing, it calls for too much specialization; for another, it involves often unnecessary loss of time and money for those who wish to attend the congresses.

To give only one example, if an important congress on rheumatism is being held in Paris, such a gathering would be of interest not only to the specialists in that discipline but also to those devoting their work to pediatric surgery, etc. But scholars, working in those related branches, are often unable to go to the congress on rheumatism because they have their own meetings at the same time, or at places too far removed from the site of the congress.

And then again it happens all too often that doctors would have to take a long road from their country to attend one week of conference and that therefore they decide in advance against coming just for one single session.

Thus by suggesting appropriate dates and places for medical science congresses, the Council established in Brussels will see to it that exaggerated specialization in these meetings is avoided and that maximum opportunity is given to scientists of all countries to attend meetings of interest to them at the minimum cost with the minimum loss of time.

BUT the Council will do more than just co-ordinate. It will also help congresses to ensure a high level of work in lending them the necessary services in the fields of translation, interpretation, publication of proceedings, etc.

This may seem unimportant to the man in the street, but all those who have followed a number of international conferences closely know only too well how much of their success depends on the efficient working of services such as ones cited above.

This brings us to another major aim of the Council, related to the general question of techniques of conferences. The holding of conferences is indeed a complicated business today. The last few years have witnessed the emerging of many new techniques, still unknown to the world at large.

Again, to use only one example, the Mental Health Congresses which took place last year in London applied a procedure which might be usefully followed by other conferences in the future. For over a year two hundred working groups studied in various countries the problems with which the congresses were going to deal and brought their findings to London.

The new Council will undertake a study of such new techniques with the ultimate purpose of putting all available and until now largely dispersed information at the disposal of everybody.

IF I mention that the Council also intends to grant subsidies to scientists wishing to attend congresses, and that it will help to overcome difficulties raised by travel, transfer of funds, etc., the reader will—I think—have a pretty good idea of the triple functions of **co-ordination, information,** and **direct aid** through which the Council just created under the sponsorship of Unesco and WHO will advance progress in the medical sciences—an essential factor to promote the physical and mental well-being of Man.

It is this very same purpose which explains why the two U.N. Specialized Agencies encouraged the idea of a co-ordinating Council, why they actively supported the non-governmental organizations in its creation, and why they are determined to contribute to the success of the young institution.

UNESCO, which is here to foster international understanding in the field of sciences, is indeed directly interested in organizations which, like the Council, will make for closer co-operation between scientists from wherever they may come and to whatever political, economic or social system they may belong.

As to the WHO, it welcomes of course every effort aiming at the use for medical resources for the creation of a healthier and therefore happier world.

Contacts between physicians such as those which took place in Brussels in the first week of April and the many others to be established thanks to the co-ordinating Council, are by no means of a spectacular nature.

They seldom make the headlines and are hardly to be found in the papers. They are however at the foundation of the international society which we must build.

It is in this sense that the Belgian Minister for Health could affirm at the inaugural meeting of the Brussels conference that the Council will contribute to making the words of Pasteur a reality when the great scientist proclaimed "I hold the unconquerable belief that Science and Peace will triumph over ignorance and war, that nations will come together not to destroy but to construct."

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MASACCIO

Head Detail of "Adam and Eve".

Adam and Eve driven from the Garden of Eden

Masaccio as seen by another artist.

A Portfolio of High Quality Colour Reproductions

THE first Unesco-sponsored art portfolio of high quality colour reproductions, devoted to the Florentine Master Masaccio, has just been produced by the Italian publisher Amilcare Pizzi, of Milan.

This portfolio, which is only the first of a whole series including various great artists and periods in the history of world art, will be placed on sale to the general public within the next few weeks.

Published in three editions with English, French and Italian texts, the Unesco-sponsored publication offers 28 reproductions in full colour of Masaccio's frescos in the Brancacci Chapel of the Church of Santa Maria del Carmine, located in Florence. This is the first time that these masterpieces of 15th century fresco painting have ever been reproduced so completely and so faithfully.

Two Carmelite monks

The Brancacci frescos are undoubtedly the most important achievement of Masaccio, who died before his 28th birthday. No more than a dozen isolated examples of his work exist outside Italy, so the Pizzi-Unesco portfolio will undoubtedly take on unusual significance for students and art lovers in all countries of the world.

The 28 plates include reproductions from the frescos "Expulsion from Paradise", "The Tribute Money", "Peter and John healing the sick", "Peter Baptising" and "Raising the King's Son." All the prints are removeable and can easily be framed or used by groups of students.

Other portfolios dealing with the great Masters of Italian art are scheduled for publication at regular intervals. It is planned that all the important phases of Italian art from the 13th century on will be covered in this unique series. To appear shortly are portfolios devoted to the Sistine Chapel and the 15th century frescos in the Vatican.

Working in collaboration with Unesco, other publishers will produce similar portfolios on the great art, both ancient and modern, of other countries.

St. Peter with woman and child

Another detail of Masaccio's "Tribute Money": Custom official and Apostle.

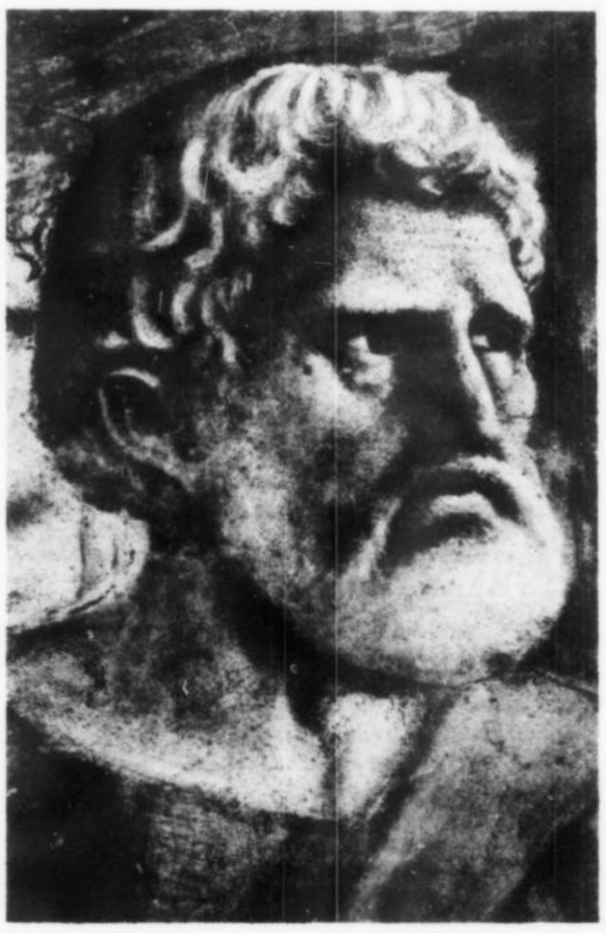
Each of the 28 prints in the Masaccio portfolio is mounted on a solid backing 13½" by 17½", suitable for framing in the schoolroom or in the home.

The portfolio is sold at a retail price of 6,000 Italian lire, or its equivalent.

Wholesale and retail orders can be placed by writing direct to Amilcare Pizzi, 14 Viale Piave, Milan. Further information may be obtained from the Arts and Letters Division, Unesco.

An apostle. Reproduced from "The Tribute Money", in the Pizzi-Unesco portfolio.

"Raising the King's Son", a detail reproduced from a larger plate in the portfolio.



St-Peter—detail of "The Tribute Money" reproduced in Masaccio portfolio.